



THE NOE VALLEY VOICE

Landmark to Close Doors On 24th St.

By Jeff Kaliss

Ella Melendy, manager of the Glen Five & Ten since it opened on 24th Street in 1960, has grown used to sharing the ups and downs of her many regular customers. But it was especially sad for her to see one of them enter the store in tears last month. "She wanted to buy some things and wasn't able to, she felt so bad," recounts Melendy. "She said, 'I'll have to go home and get myself together.'"

What shocked Melendy's customer and the whole neighborhood was the news that Glen Five & Ten, Noe Valley's last old-fashioned variety store, is scheduled to shut down for good. Paul Remak, 71, co-owner with his two brothers of this and three other variety stores in Pacifica and Marin County, cited high operating costs, commercial competition, and advancing age as reasons behind the closing.

"The customer, and I don't blame him, buys his toys in a discount store," notes Remak. "He buys stuff in a grocery store—even his Christmas and Easter stuff—and there is not enough for a dime store left. I cannot blame him at all. But you cannot blame us that we cannot live on the leftovers and the little things."

Of course, the availability of the little things has made Glen Five & Ten special since long before the days of discount outlets and supermarkets. The store's shelves have offered a virtual cornucopia of toys, personal items, decorations, basic garments, kitchen goods, fixtures, hardware, gardening supplies, sewing and knitting supplies, gift items, candy, and much, much more. Still, even though he and his brothers own the building,

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The closing of Glen Five & Ten next month will remove a much-beloved 24th Street landmark and a valuable source of everyday goods. Standing here are Paul Remak, one of the store's owners (in rear), and clerks (left to right) Jeanette Mitchell, Sally Tighe and Marge Ford. Our apologies for not including store manager Ella Melendy and co-worker Ida Crespin, who were unavailable the day the photograph was taken.

PHOTO BY CHARLES KENNARD

Comerford: Who Wants an Orphan Alley?

By Denise Minor

How much does a good alley go for these days?

About \$200 if it fits the description of Comerford Alley, one of the lots the city plans to auction off in March or April. That's the city assessor's book value of the rutty, overgrown passage, which connects Church to Sanchez between 27th and Duncan streets.

It may sound like a deal for 5,130 square feet of property in Noe Valley, but neither the city nor adjacent property owners want to take advantage of the bargain. Each encourages the other to buy Comerford and bring it up to code for a public thoroughfare, which is exactly why neither wants to buy.

"They're dreaming if they think the neighbors are going to buy it," says Ugo Rezzio of 379 27th St., whose garage entrance lies on Comerford. "No one will agree to that."

For years, Rezzio and his neighbors have complained about the potholes, weeds, dog excrement and parked cars in Comerford Alley. They've done what they could to keep the path clean and to enforce the No Parking signs, but believe the responsibility should lie with the city.

In an Oct. 5 letter to Mayor Dianne Feinstein, Mary Mudie of 355 27th St. asked that the mayor recognize Comerford as a city street and begin maintaining it as such.

"This street has been a public thoroughfare since at least 1932, and in fact it is questionable whether it was private property before that," Mudie wrote. "Many of the houses backing on the alley date back to the 1890s and have used the

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Exploring the Options for Lesbian Mothering

By Annie Stuart

*"We will raise a family.
A boy for you, a girl for me,
Can't you see how happy
We will be?"*

Until recently, this consummate "Tea for Two" scenario didn't even approach reality for most lesbians. But today, an increasing number of lesbian women are challenging the constraints of the nuclear family and discovering that homosexuality and parenting don't have to be a contradiction in terms.

Many lesbians are finding they don't have to compromise their sexual identity to have children and that it's possible to parent outside of the sanctioned institution of marriage.

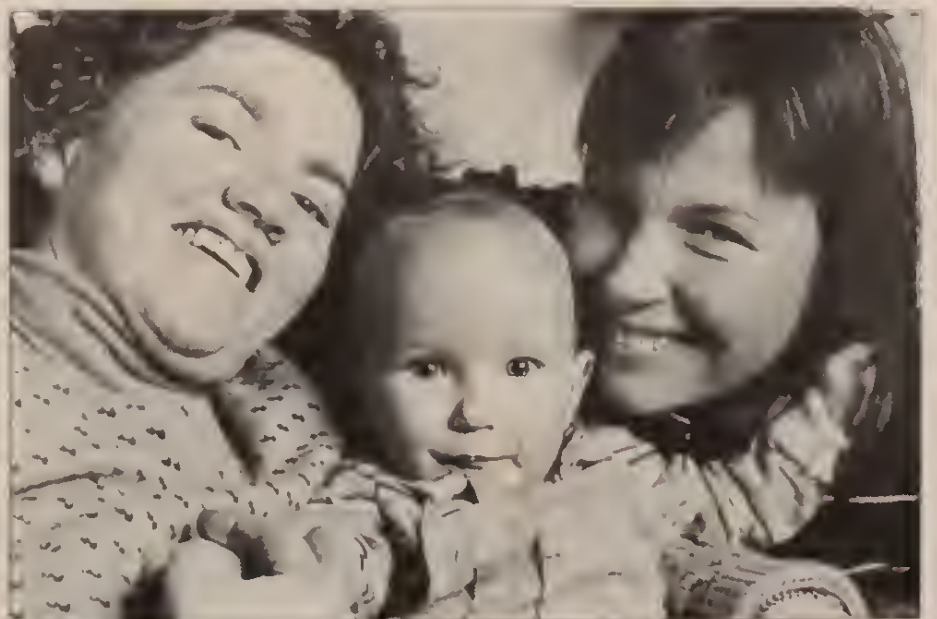
According to Cheri Pies, author of *Considering Parenthood, A Workbook for Lesbians* and a "co-parent" herself, there is no one right way to achieve this goal. From artificial insemination—using unknown or known donors—to adoption

to foster parenting, the methods for bringing children into women's lives are extremely varied. And, says Pies, lesbians' ideas about how to put together these families are almost as diverse, some choosing to parent, for example, with a lover, a gay man or several friends, thereby creating a new kind of extended family.

"That is what is so wonderful and so frightening about it," says Pies, who since 1978 has led workshops for over 300 lesbians contemplating parenthood.

Because this territory is largely uncharted, she says, her workshop participants frequently ask tough questions of themselves, like: "Do I have the right to use an unknown donor, therefore preventing my child from knowing her or his father?"

Pies considers the groups to be a helpful tool for examining general parenting issues such as how children affect your work, relationships and financial situations to more specific lesbian issues such as when and how to "come out" to family,



This new kind of nuclear family is glowing with happiness: baby Zach poses between moms Carolyn Dale (left) and Kathleen Harrison. PHOTO BY CHARLES KENNARD

children or childcare workers.

Kathleen Harrison and Carolyn Dale are two Noe Valley residents who've pondered these questions long and hard. They're both self-starters—Harrison runs her own gardening business and Dale's a building contractor—and have been living together on Fair Oaks Street since 1982.

"We had been talking about having a baby from the time we knew our relationship was a good one," says Harrison, adding with a chuckle, "which was maybe the third week!"

The couple chose a somewhat unusual method for "keeping it all in the family."

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Letters

Requiem for a Dime Store

Editor's Note: Castro Street resident Bunny Day sent us this touching tribute to one of Noe Valley's most-revered neighborhood businesses, Glen Five & Ten. As reported in our "Rumors" section last month and on the front page this issue, the dime store is closing after 26 years on 24th Street. We at the Voice wholeheartedly agree with the sentiment Day expresses and share her concern over the swiftly changing face of Noe Valley.

Editor:

For years I have watched the transformation of 24th Street with amusement and pleasure. One by one, old storefronts and apartment windows were papered over. Then, after weeks or months of suspense, a new business burst its cocoon in a dazzling display of color, leaving no trace of what had stood there before. I allowed the 24th Street of my childhood to fade from memory.

Then the other day I heard some distressing news: Glen Five & Ten will soon be closing its doors. My reaction shocked me; I felt as if someone had told me an old friend was dying. I had never realized what a landmark of my past Glen Five & Ten was. Recollections of the old neighborhood began surfacing during dinner, in dreams, throughout the day. The Selfs, Nicolas, Peis, Hernandezes, Laniers, Sillas, Hennighs, Castenedas, Sanzes, Eagletons, Mosterts, Footes, Taylors (the list goes on), all those families with whom I went to school at Alvarado and James Lick, people I hadn't thought of or seen in years, lined up like toy soldiers in my mind. Even Wado Gillis, the invincible bully on my block, whose name struck terror in the hearts of so many children, made a welcome appearance. It was a working-class neighborhood where family reputations preceded or followed us, via siblings, in school, in stores, and with each other. The landscape of houses long overdue

for a painting, with weed gardens fronting the street, had as much allure to outsiders as a common house moth. Very few San Franciscans knew that Noe Valley existed.

But when I tried to picture the physical appearance of 24th Street, it remained obscure. Of course Plate's, Twin Peaks Realty, Tuggey's and a few others are still with us. However, with the exception of two defunct stores, Carmack's Dry Goods (Keds, gym uniforms, Buster Brown) or Meyer's (the other dime store and always the last resort), no business approaches the prominence of Glen Five & Ten.

It was the first choice when shopping for candy, toys, "PeeChee" folders, lunch pails, or things Mom sent us to get. This was because the ladies of Glen Five & Ten believed in the innate goodness of children, even as they reprimanded us for dawdling or playing with toys we had no intention of buying. It was also the place where neighborhood news was exchanged. As I grew older and started paying attention to adult conversations, the ladies could tell you who was moving and why, who had married, who was expecting a baby, who was ill, and so on.

While the character of Noe Valley changed, Glen Five & Ten remained miraculously intact. It is one of the few stores where newcomers can sense what the old neighborhood was like. If you haven't done so already, you might want to take a stroll down the aisles before the windows are papered up. I will miss the dime store, but more I will miss Ida and Ella, and the other ladies in the blue smocks who addressed me as "honey" over the years, even when my purchase amounted to only 59 cents, plus tax. Nothing will be able to replace the charm of Glen Five & Ten.

Bunny Day
Castro Street

Refugee Relief

Editor:

I want to thank you for your supportive article on the work I do with the refugees ["Food Drive Continues to Aid Central American Refugees," by Denise Minor, February issue]. I would also like especially to acknowledge Kathy Garber and Dik Fishman, who have worked very hard with me on this project, as well as the Noe Valley Ministry—especially Mary O'Brien, who often does the food runs with Kathy, Dik and myself and coordinates the donations made through the Noe Valley Ministry.

My work with the refugees from El Salvador has been a very inspiring process. These brave people, many of whom have lost members of their families and close friends, have witnessed acts of

military cruelty so violent and decadent that they are incomprehensible, deeply shocking, and, of course, permanently traumatic for all who have borne witness or been a direct victim. Yet the spirit of the refugees is not broken. In a strange new country—the country largely responsible for perpetuating the war in their homeland, a country which speaks in a different tongue, has a different culture and which, to a great extent, disenfranchises the poor and the non-Anglo—they survive. They are kind, generous, strong, and open to making new friends. My work with them has given me valuable gifts—the lesson of the power of the human spirit, and their friendship.

As the bombing of El Salvador continues, more people make their way north in a desperate effort to save their own lives and those of their children. Here in San Francisco there are many infant refugees, and we are in desperate need of diapers (preferably paper ones) for them. The refugees also need socks, especially men's socks, which the Christmas clothing drive did not yield. These can be brought, along with food, to the Noe Valley Ministry. The best foods to donate are rice, beans, fresh fruits and vegetables, and cheese. Cash donations are, of course, always deeply appreciated.

In solidarity,
Beth Abrams
Army Street

Green Crops up Again

Editor:

I noted that in your February issue Mazook referred to me as "history." [Actually, Mazook was describing Ron Green's 24th Street shop, Plant Works, which went out of business seven years ago. —Ed.] So, I would like to take this opportunity to bring your readers up to date on some recent history.

Some may remember that I closed Plant Works in an angry public dispute with my landlord, Dr. Michael McFadden. In those final weeks of 1979 I had a sign painted on my store window which commented on our dispute and apparently upset my landlord.

This disagreement between McFadden and me led to two separate lawsuits. One suit culminated in 1983 when a jury ordered McFadden to pay me \$33,000, which he did, albeit involuntarily. McFadden also sued me, for that sign which I put up on my store window; however, a Superior Court judge threw his suit out. Both cases are now on appeal, with decisions expected within a few months. (By the way, McFadden's attorney was William Murphy, the same gent who was the landlord of Finnegan's Wake.)

My dispute with McFadden prompted my return to the practice of law, which

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Low Count

Fred Methner, the secretary and litter chairman of the East & West of Castro Street Improvement Club, points out that he has over 400 persons on his mailing list, many more than the 56 members reported in last month's story on neighborhood groups. Sorry, Fred. □

I had given up in 1973 in favor of selling philodendrons. I have been practicing law in Lake County since 1981. My office is at 16225 Main St. in Lower Lake (mailing address is P.O. Box 1110, Lower Lake, CA 95457). I fight insurance companies and the U.S. government, handling personal injury cases and social security disability cases. I'd love to see any old friends who ever get up this way.

Congratulations on keeping the Voice together all these years (with many of the same great people). I always enjoy reading the Voice, and although I do love it up here in the country, I invariably get a little homesick and nostalgic when I pick up the Noe Valley Voice. The best to everyone who remembers me and also to those who wish they didn't.

Ron Green
Lower Lake, California



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Coming Home: A Hospice for Terminally Ill Patients

By Denise Minor

The stark, white convent next to Most Holy Redeemer Church in Eureka Valley sits empty and quiet, hospital beds lying on their sides in its long-unused rooms.

But by next fall, thanks to the combined efforts of a growing number of local humanitarians, the building will have all the color, warmth and comforts of home. The locally-based Hospice of San Francisco recently joined hands with the Holy Redeemer parishioners and a group called Coming Home to convert the convent to a residence for people with AIDS and other terminal illnesses.

"It is the Hospice philosophy that home is the ideal place for the terminally ill, but we recognize that some people just can't get the care they need at home," says Larry Beresford, a spokesperson for Hospice of San Francisco. "Since many of those patients don't need the attention of a skilled nursing facility or hospital, we planned to fill the gap between the two" by setting up a home-like residence regularly visited by health care professionals.

The convent, located at Diamond and 18th Streets, will be renamed "Coming Home," Beresford said, partly in recognition of the gay/lesbian group that was instrumental in bringing the idea to fruition.

Last month, Hospice of San Francisco, which has offices at 225 30th St., had unofficially launched a drive to raise \$450,000 for building renovations such as painting, carpeting and rewiring. The old convent will also need new elevators and larger bathrooms to ensure wheelchair access.



The chapel in the Sisters of Charity convent building owned by Most Holy Redeemer Church will be one of the rooms transformed to living quarters for residents of a new hospice called Coming Home. The church will help both with fundraising and with spiritual and emotional support for the patients who will live there. PHOTO BY JOEL ABRAMSON

But special attention will be paid to Coming Home's appearance and atmosphere, said Beresford. The hospice will be as homey and "uninstitutional" as possible, while still providing health care attendance.

Once completed, the residence will house 15. "We've kept it small, because if it were larger, it would be like an institution," he said. "And there's no way you can make a home out of an institution."

The 60-year-old convent was a home to the Sisters of Charity of the Blessed Virgin Mary until 1979 when Most Holy Redeemer School, where they taught, was closed, according to parish priest Father Anthony McGuire. Until last year, the Central American Refugee Program used it as a shelter.

After exploring five alternatives for a new convent use, the church's Convent Committee recommended the Hospice proposal to parishioners, who voted overwhelmingly in its favor at masses last spring. (The alternatives were a home for the elderly, a transitional housing pro-

gram sponsored by the Diamond Street Senior Center, a shared retirement home for religious women, and a youth shelter.)

On Nov. 24, Hospice of San Francisco signed a \$1,000-a-month lease with the Catholic Archdiocese. Father McGuire said his parish was committed not only to raising funds for the remodeling, but to providing spiritual and emotional support for Coming Home's future residents.

Also committed to supporting the new hospice is the group Coming Home, which works to provide high-quality hospice care for lesbians and gay men with life-threatening illnesses.

"The role we've played is as the gay/lesbian auxiliary to Hospice," said Coming Home President Donald Catalano. The 12 board directors of Coming Home have put in long hours recruiting volunteers for Hospice and organizing a special Fund Development Committee.

"We use every opportunity to raise funds. We've approached everything from religious groups to motorcycle clubs," said Catalano. "We even have what we call 'informants', where we go into people's homes and describe the project. They're a little bit like fundraising Tupperware parties without the Tupperware."

According to Beresford, placement at the residence Coming Home will be based on need and availability of space, not on specific illness or sexual orientation. But he speculated that AIDS patients would fill about 10 of the 15 beds since they were more likely to be alone.

"AIDS patients are typically young men in their 30s who often don't have a spouse or someone to support them," he said. "The older patients, with cancer, for instance, often have spouses or grown children who help care for them."

Health care expenses for AIDS victims will be met mainly by a \$845,000 grant from the county Department of Public Health, said Beresford. That grant, in fact, was an enormous factor in enabling Hospice to begin the Coming Home project.

"A lot of people wonder why we tackled an ambitious project like this while cutting back in other areas," said Beresford, referring to the agency's recent freeze on intake of non-AIDS patients. "It's because the funding [for AIDS patients] is secure. We're trying to take advantage of what's out there."

Funding for other patients' medical expenses will come primarily from Medicare and individuals' health insurance. The residency expenses for both groups will be covered by rent from residents who can afford to pay on a sliding scale and by outside donations, he added.

Hospice Development Associate Debra Friedland says she hopes to raise \$75,000 beyond the building renovation costs to serve as a cushion for patients who can't pay or for tardy reimbursements from Medicare and insurance.

Coming Home's capital campaign, headed by 12 representatives from the various groups involved, has already raised more than \$50,000 "quietly," said Friedland. The fund drive officially begins April 25 with a kick-off dinner at the home of Supervisor Louise Renne.

Renovation will begin in late June or early July, Friedland said, but only if Hospice has raised 50 percent of the money needed. Architects estimate the work will take between 16 and 20 weeks.

Some local groups and businesses have already stepped forward with help for Coming Home. The Castro Lions Club pledged to raise \$10,000 by April 1, and they already have more than half of that, said Friedland.

Statements Lighting Design donated all the light fixtures for the rooms and hallways, said William Haskell, assistant director of development for the Visiting Nurses Association (VNA), Hospice's parent corporation.

A number of people have donated hos-



These are some of the folks who will help realize the dream of converting an unused convent to a home for patients with AIDS and other terminal illnesses. From left: Father Anthony McGuire of Most Holy Redeemer parish; Donald Catalano, president of Coming Home, which has helped raise money for the project; Debra Friedland of Hospice of San Francisco, which is leasing the building and will run the new residence; Larry Beresford, Hospice's public relations director; and Bill Haskell, assistant director of development for the Visiting Nurses Association. PHOTO BY JOEL ABRAMSON

pital beds and televisions. And Floorcraft on Bay Shore Boulevard is selling Hospice the carpeting at cost, Haskell said.

Landscaper David Kaplan will renovate the convent's garden for free in memory of a friend who died from AIDS. Art for Healing is loaning paintings for all the bedrooms. Also, Wong & Yeo is donating its graphic design services for

the capital campaign.

Some members of the group Coming Home have also gone to the convent to clean and organize.

If you'd like to be a part of bringing this vision together, by donating money or services, call VNA's development office at 285-5622 and ask how you can help Coming Home. □

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Students of Scottish Dance Have a Fling at the Ministry

By Denise Minor

With a hop and a spin, the dancers take their partners' hands and jig down the middle of a dance line to the other end, where they commence again the complicated pattern of intertwining steps.

This is the Scottish Country Dancing Class held every Thursday night at the Noe Valley Ministry on Sanchez. The



Susie Kass keeps a restraining arm around Benjamin "Bear" Rutheford as she instructs his parents and others in the joys of Scottish dancing.

women all wear skirts, one man wears a kilt, and most wear special dance slippers called "gillies." And one thing they all wear is a smile.

"It's really a lot of fun," says instructor Marjorie Kistemaker. "They start smiling the minute they start moving." She and Susie Kass began teaching at the Ministry last September and then in February began their second course there.

"I've lived on 27th Street for nine years and was really happy to see, when we started teaching here, that about half the class is from Noe Valley," said Kistemaker, the daughter of a Scottish dance master who's been kicking up her own heels for the past 25 years.

The group is divided into a class for 16 experienced dancers and one for 14 beginners. They dance separately for about an hour, take a tea break, and then unite to practice their steps in the Ministry's upstairs dance hall.

"It takes about a year to become proficient," says Kass. "But it's something people get hooked on, so they keep coming. This group is particularly enthusiastic."

The routines she and Kistemaker teach are similar to square dancing and cotillion, but steps are done on the balls of the feet and there is no stomping. "I started because I saw it in an international folk dance class about 11 years ago and loved it," said Kass, who is of Scottish descent. "It reminded me of the square dancing I did as a kid."



This advanced group of dancers perfects its Scottish country steps at the Noe Valley Ministry each Thursday. The beginners' group joins them later in the evening.
PHOTO BY TOM WACHIS

Scottish country dancing is not to be confused with Highland dancing, which is usually a solo performance to bagpipe music. Country dancing is done in sets of at least two pairs to violin, piano or accordion music.

Learning how to do it isn't all practice and no play, said Kass. The group has dance parties the first Saturday of each month. In February, many of the Ministry dancers attended the annual Scottish Valentine Ball in Oakland along with 230 other dancers.

There are a number of classes held in the Bay Area, but the only other one in San Francisco is taught by Kass on Monday nights at U.C. San Francisco. Although another beginner series won't start at the Ministry until September, one will start this spring at the school.

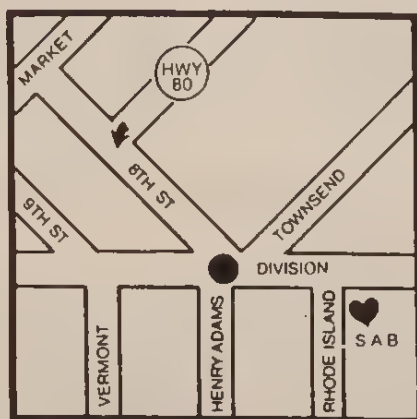
The course of instruction is affiliated with the Royal Scottish Country Dance Society based in Edinburgh, said Kass, so Noe Valley's dancers can go to Scotland and hop into a dance festival without missing a step. □



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Irish Music & Merriment At Local Bar

By Jeff Kaliss

Jim McEvoy, the wiry, white-haired owner of the Cork 'n Bottle, and Jack Hansen, his intense, rosy-cheeked bartender, always have a beer and a good word ready for fiddler John Caulfield and accordion-player Robert Crosby when the musical pair saunter into the 24th Street bar around 9:30 every Friday and Saturday evening.

Caulfield and Crosby are the leaders of the bar's weekend "sessions," which began last October, and McEvoy and Hansen have reason to be grateful. They know that, within a couple of hours, their establishment will be vibrating with the sounds of jigs, reels and hornpipes. There'll also be the jingle of the cash register and the clinking glasses and laughter of the crowds who come from far and near to enjoy the talent and camaraderie.

"The word is gettin' around," hams McEvoy in brogue. "This is like the hot spot now," adds Hansen. Quite a few of their patrons are finding the musical scene at the Cork 'n Bottle more intimate and authentic than that found at Ireland's 32 (which relocated from 22nd and Guerrero to Geary Street a couple years back), the Plough and Stars on Clement Street, and Moriarty's in Berkeley.

Brian Butler, a red-haired, fresh-faced cabinetmaker who moved to Noe Valley from Tipperary last year, feels that the Cork "is very much like an Irish bar at all. It's fairly boisterous, and it's good company."

Danny McGinley, who lives in the Mission District and does solo concerts elsewhere on the Uilleann (Irish) pipes, notes, "If you go into a bar and the setting is contrived, if you're supposed to behave in a certain way, that doesn't generate its own momentum."

McGinley finds no such artifice at the Cork 'n Bottle. Located in a neighborhood which never fully lost the Irish character that predominated a few decades back, the bar has always had a cadre of devoted regulars (among them *Examiner* columnist and nearby resident Warren Hinckle). Many of the regulars show up early and listen to the music, which starts around 10 o'clock bar time, from the vantage point of their barstools.

And McEvoy and Hansen are as attentive and friendly to the younger folk who wander in later as they are to their venerable regulars. The young crowd is well balanced between the genders and includes both Irish expatriates, like Butler and McGinley, and general lovers of music and merriment like Lisa Backalenick, a sparkly brunette who lives around the corner on Noe Street. Backalenick studies Irish fiddle and sometimes records the action at the Cork 'n Bottle on tape, but she also like the "homeyness" of the place.

"The first time I came in here alone, and I don't usually go to bars alone," she reports, "I actually felt perfectly comfortable and I had a great time."

The musicians themselves help make for a comfortable scene. Although co-leaders Caulfield and Crosby are the only performers paid by the bar, they do not try to monopolize attention or even call all the tunes.

"That's a sign of a good session," says Crosby, an Oakland man who recently returned from County Clare on the west



Music and spirits flow freely at the Cork 'n Bottle's weekend sessions of Irish music, led by John Caulfield (with wire-rimmed glasses, on fiddle) and Robert Crosby (with beard, on accordion). There'll be a special session on St. Patrick's Day. PHOTO BY HINAWENDI ABRAMSON

coast of Ireland, where he's been living and playing for 13 years. "Sometimes [at other jams] when you get one person who starts everything and is very domineering, it's not enjoyable for the other people. Everybody wants a chance."

Accordians, fiddles, drums, flutes, pennywhistles, hanjos, mandolins, bouzoukis, concertinas and hornpipes all get a fair chance at the Cork 'n Bottle, and the music is pretty constant throughout the evening, with players coming and going, playing or resting at will.

Kerry Diggins, a math teacher of "Irish extraction" and a regular performer at the bar, learned to play the *bohdran* (an Irish hand-held drum, pronounced "bor-ran") about six months ago, simply by sitting in at sessions and listening to records. "A session fulfills a lot of purposes," she says. "It's entertainment, and it's a vehicle for players to teach each other the music and carry on the oral tradition." She believes that Caulfield and Crosby "bring a lot of authenticity to the music, so that for those of us who are novices it's a real opportunity to play with somebody who knows what they're doing."

The tradition Diggins refers to began in Ireland as an accompaniment to dance, and evolved into folk music, with or without dance, performed in homes and bars, McGinley explains. "Ireland is probably the only country in the world that has an unbroken tradition of folk music," he claims. There are literally "thousands of tunes, mostly in the jig and reel genre," and every performer brings something new to every performance of every song. "You can hear the musician is embellishing the melodic line, he's not just providing rhythm," advises McGinley.

To embellish successfully, the Cork 'n Bottle players use short-necked banjos so they can move quickly around the fretboard, and wooden flutes that are unencumbered by metal valves. Diggins and other percussionists maintain the traditional dance rhythm on the *bohdran* and on the "bones" (wooden clappers).

McGinley calls Irish music "a highly developed musical form which was a very powerful influence on the whole folk music revival." In turn, Irish sessions have borrowed the bouzouki and mandolin from Europe and the banjo from the U.S.

As living evidence of this cross-pollination, Scotland's champion fiddler and recording artist, Johnny Cunningham, paid a surprise visit to the Cork 'n Bottle in the middle of a busy Saturday session last month. In his own very different brogue, Cunningham described the

crossover points between his music and that of some parts of Ireland, particularly Donegal and County Tyrone, and went on to a more ecumenical perspective.

"What's happened is, the music from other cultures, like Brittany, Spain and the Balkans, is of interest to most people that play any kind of traditional music. It's the same feelin', and it's becoming part of people's lifestyles again."

He gazed around at the Cork 'n Bottle crowd, jammed solid by 11:30. "It's like this is part of a lifestyle, it isn't an 'example' of anything of all. It's a Saturday night out where people, as part of their lifestyle, come down to a pub and play traditional music. It's right back to where it was before it became part of a concert platform or any of that stuff. It's coming full circle."

The absence of a stage and microphone, which separate audience from artists at other locations, helps this work at the Cork 'n Bottle, where musicians sit around a table or along a bench against the wall. When their drinks run low, Caulfield and Crosby must work a hit to catch bartender Hansen's eye, and then depend upon attentive customers to convey their beers to them.

"It's kind of every man for himself," says Caulfield, a slender Dubliner who

now lives in the Mission. "But all bullshit aside, this is the closest thing to an Irish session I've ever come across in America."

He and Crosby attribute the success of the sessions in part to the Irish presence in Noe Valley. Many of the neighborhood's Irish residents, according to Crosby, are from County Galway, a Gaelic-speaking region close to his own adopted home in County Clare. "Irish people love a crowd," says Crosby. "You think they're not listening [to the music], but they are."

They're also drinking, calling for hornpipes, hugging Backalenick and Diggins as they squeeze by, and occasionally breaking into dance, song, or blarney, like this snippet obtained from a Joycean customer at the bar last month: "I'm an irregular juxtaposed against the surreal excellence of Irish poetry with the ongoing background of the mountain-side juxtaposition of the flowing tide of the emanations of Irish culture flowing into the basin of Noe Valley."

This month you'll find the culture continuing to flow at the Cork 'n Bottle on Fridays and Saturdays, as well as on St. Patrick's Day (March 17), when McEvoy promises corned beef and cabbage along with the music and spirits. □

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No Takers for Comerford Alley

Continued from Page 1

alley ever since for access to what were once stables and are now garages providing valuable off-street parking."

The city's Public Works Department hasn't kept up the alley because it belonged to the state from 1932 until last year. The state had confiscated Comerford in 1932 for non-payment of taxes.

But last year state legislation nullified all such state repossessions, returning them to previous owners. The last recorded owners of Comerford Alley were Charles Hun, who had the half of the alley designated Lot 5 of 6592, and Schainman Realty, which owned the half designated Lot 29, according to Deputy Tax Administrator Richard Sullivan.

Since no one can locate the owners, the alley will be auctioned. The Public Works Department has no interest in acquiring Comerford because it is too narrow, says Joe Pelayo, chief of maps and surveys.

"Because Comerford Alley is only 18 feet wide, we probably wouldn't be in favor of making it a city street," he said. "We don't accept anything narrower than 20 feet because it presents more problems than it solves. It's difficult to pass two cars."

He admitted that the city owned alleys narrower than 18 feet, but said they had been acquired before his department enacted the 20-foot standard.

Pelayo added that Public Works might consider taking over Comerford, however, if the adjacent property owners first bought it, improved it, and then added a one-foot easement to the alley on either side.

"If they bought it together, as sort of a homeowners association, relocated the fences and deeded it to the city, then the city could maintain it forever," said Pelayo. Although his proposal wasn't official, it was one the DPW supported, he said.

Resident Rezzio thinks the idea is ridiculous. Creating a foot easement on both sides of the alley would mean ripping out a lot of existing structures; many of the residents' garages and entrances to four houses lie squarely on the property line.

Comerford Alley neighbors found support in their gripes from Supervisor John Molinari, who plans to introduce legislation to have the city buy the alley, says Molinari aide Laura Talmus. Last fall, the supervisor heeded the residents' request to get Public Works to erect street signs on both ends of Comerford.

Molinari took up the Comerford Alley

cause after hearing a number of complaints from neighbors. Gilbert Frenna, who for 40 years has owned his 1415 Sanchez St. home, said he was tired of fighting weeds and cleaning up six to seven cartons of dog-doo every few days from the section of Comerford his house borders.

Public Works sometimes repaired the alley's worst potholes, but with a sticky gravel that adhered to shoes and tires and spread everywhere, he said. "We want Comerford repaved and then cleaned once a week," Frenna insisted.

Rezzio would also like to see garbage service restored. The private company Sunset Scavenger Corp. used to pick up cans in the alley, but stopped last year because the passage was often blocked by illegally parked cars.

J. W. Fenner, who lives at 383 27th St., sees the cars as the biggest nuisance. Although No Parking signs dot the alley, people ignore them and pull in anyway, sometimes blocking garage entrances, he said.

In a letter to the Mission Police Station dated Jan. 16, Fenner complained, "In spite of the No Parking at Any Time signs, there are usually one or more cars parked on this street. Calls to headquarters traffic division have not helped and most residents whose homes back onto Comerford are concerned about this situation. It would be difficult if not impossible for fire-lighting or emergency equipment to enter this street blocked by illegally parked cars."

Deputy Chief John J. Jordan responded the following week. "I investigated the reasons for the lack of enforcement on that street and discovered that it is private property, declared such by the Board of Supervisors of San Francisco in resolution 15552 of April 8, 1918," he wrote.

"We cannot cite or tow away vehicles parked on private property; however, the owner of the property can have vehicles towed off it at his expense," he continued.

The resolution Jordan cites is another bone of contention for Rezzio, who claims that by naming the alley, the board was declaring it public property. But city officials say Rezzio is misinterpreting the resolution, which not only noted the street's private ownership but named the path after Joseph Comerford, a builder who constructed many Noe Valley houses beginning in the 1880s.

It's hard to tell whether the ball is now in the city's court or just lying in the weeds out back in the alley. Late last month, the exact auction date had yet to be set, and the city hadn't even decided



Illegally parked cars make it tough to pass through Comerford Alley. It's also been tough for city authorities and nearby residents to decide what to do with the passage, scheduled for auction in the next couple of months. PHOTO BY TOM WACHS

whether the bidding would be a "sealed bid sale" (open only to the city and adjacent property owners) or open to the pub-

lic. If it's the latter, Comerford is up for grabs. Anyone interested in developing a Noe Valley dog run? □

Glen Five & Ten Rings Final Sale

Continued from Page 1

Remak claims the rising costs of maintenance, utilities, and union wages, among other things, far outweigh the store's sales receipts.

The Remaks finalized their decision to close when they found a suitable tenant for the building last month. The U.S. Postal Service will start paying rent on May 1, and by the end of the year the Noe Valley post office will have relocated to Glen's old spot from its present smaller quarters across the street. Horace Henshaw, the service's local public affairs director, says the new station will include P.O. boxes. He did not know who or what would come in to occupy the station's current space, owned by Edwin Hogan.

Melendy and the rest of Glen Five & Ten's staff are at least as upset as their customers about the store's departure from Noe Valley. She remembers that when she came to work in the neighborhood 26 years ago, she was actually a bit overwhelmed by its character.

"I live in the Sunset, and we do not even acknowledge people in our same block," she explains. "Over here they are the most friendly in all of San Francisco, and I didn't know how to cope with it. I've worked for Woolworth's and

I've worked over on Judah Street [for one of the former Glen Five & Tens], and you just don't know your customers. Here, you know them, you share in their happiness, their sorrow. It's one of the most friendly neighborhoods in the city."

Miriam Blaustein of the Friends of Noe Valley wonders if the neighborhood's becoming a little too friendly to trendy, upscale entrepreneurs. Like other long-time residents, Blaustein is concerned about the loss of 24th Street's last dime store and worried about its implications for other "human services" on the strip. "We have a redundancy of boutiques, hairdressers, nail salons, bars and restaurants," Blaustein points out. "But we only have one shoe repair shop, one hardware store, and one drug store. It's becoming a miniature Union Street and losing its identity as a neighborhood."

Glen Five & Ten has been conducting a "stock reduction sale" to prepare for the last day, which will probably come in mid-April. Remak says the remaining merchandise will be transferred to the family's other stores. Melendy will seek part-time employment to supplement her Social Security. But she confides that after a lot of tearful goodbys, she expects to "feel very, very badly. I don't know that I'll be able to work the last week." □

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New Captain Keeps in Touch With Community

By Steve Steinberg

A change of command has occurred at San Francisco's Mission Police Station, bringing in a new captain who believes that high police visibility and good community relations are essential to effective police work. Michael Lennon took over in January from departing captain Victor Macia, who was promoted to deputy chief.

Lennon is 48 and a 24-year police veteran. He takes charge of a sprawling district that stretches from S.F. General Hospital to Twin Peaks and from Duhoce Street to Army Street. The area encompasses several distinct communities—including Noe Valley and the Castro—each with its own problems and priorities.

The Mission Station, located at 1240 Valencia St., is one of 10 district stations in the city. Lennon's is one of the largest district commands, with 150 officers divided up into three shifts. The station house is a non-descript building, partially encased in steel mesh. On the inside, shatter-proof glass and a vault-like door separate a small public lobby from the actual police offices. The protective measures were installed several years ago to guard against bombings and shootings.

Lennon, who is no-nonsense in his appearance but good-humored in his manner, sees his job as "basically personnel management," often with less than an ideal number of personnel. He has surprised many people by the amount of time he has spent out on the street, riding buses, talking to merchants and residents, trying to identify neighborhood concerns and people's perception of focal police. Lennon says he has spent almost every night since his appointment attending community meetings, explaining police department policy to residents.

Lennon believes he was chosen as captain in part because of his background in community affairs and public relations. "There was a lot of concern," he said, "that the new captain would be as sensitive to community concerns as Captain Macia." Lennon seemed to fit the description. He had at one time served as Mission Station's community relations officer and had also headed the department's fiscal section, which entailed representing the department on budgetary matters before the board of supervisors.

Lennon says his attitude toward the role and management of police officers is similar to that of new police chief Frank Jordan: the police should have "high visibility and high availability." Jordan, who took over from retiring chief Con Murphy in January, initiated Project SAFE, the neighborhood watch program, several years ago. Lennon and Jordan are also close friends.

The problems that Lennon and his officers have to contend with in their precinct often vary from neighborhood to neighborhood. Narcotics trafficking and drug-related crime seem to be concentrated around local housing projects, such as the ones on east Army Street, and in certain illegal alien communities in the Mission, he said. Much of the drug activity, notes Lennon, "revolves around economic situations."

In contrast, Noe Valley has little trafficking in hard drugs, although there is a moderate incidence of "recreational" drug use in the area. Traffic control is a problem in the Valley, particularly on and around 24th Street. Lennon feels the area



Michael Lennon, Mission Police Station's new captain, has already promoted the department's theme of high visibility by walking the streets and riding the buses of the Mission, Noe Valley and Castro areas. Continuing and improving relations with gay and Spanish-speaking residents are among his top priorities. PHOTO BY TOM WACHS

is also burglary-prone since many households have two or more members away at work during the day, leaving few neighbors around to keep an eye out for suspicious activities.

Lennon is proud of the good rapport the station now has with Castro area residents. He said the department had put a lot of effort into improving its once-acerbic relations with the gay community. On the other hand, relations with the Mission's Latino community and with housing project residents could be a lot better, he admits. He would like to set up Spanish classes for his officers as a means of promoting better understanding in the largely Spanish-speaking neighborhoods. He is somewhat pessimistic about the projects, however, noting that economic conditions there make it hard for everyone to get along. "[The residents] have problems of their own no matter who would be here."

Raised in the Midwest, Lennon came to the Bay Area after a four-year stint in the Army. After studying accounting at St. Mary's College in Moraga, he found himself looking for work and heard about an upcoming police exam. He decided to give police work a try, never imagining that he would remain on the force for this long. One of 10 children of an Irish family and the only one to become a police officer, Lennon likes his job for the opportunity it has given him to deal with people. "I can't imagine any other career where I could leave my thumbprint in the community as much as this one." The father of six, Lennon and his family live in Burlingame.

The Mission Station was not Lennon's first command post. After working his way up to sergeant and lieutenant, he was named captain of the Richmond Station in 1983. He served in that precinct for a year before assuming command of the Ingleside Station. His different commands have represented a progression from small to very large stations.

Asked if he ever identified with Capt. Frank Furillo, the main character on the popular TV series "Hill Street Blues," Lennon said that as soon as he became captain, people started saying he looked like Furillo, who is played by actor Daniel Travanti on the show. But, in Lennon's opinion, "Hill Street Blues" gives a much more intense version of police work than is the case. His own job is much more routine than that of Capt.

Furillo, he says, adding that station captains and lieutenants rarely go out and investigate cases. They're too busy coordinating the work of patrol officers. Also, most investigative work is handled centrally at the Hall of Justice.

Lennon's main complaint about television's portrayal of police is that the shows fail to give enough credit to the average police officer, who, he says, does the overwhelming majority of police work. "The media has basically eliminated a

lot of the patrol officer's functions, and television likes to have people with titles and rank."

Lennon sees the police department as a unique agency, one that is available to the public 24 hours a day. He wants people to know this, and he'll be glad to tell you about what the department has to offer or discuss your views about the police, perhaps the next time he's strolling up 24th Street or catching the number 37 on Castro. □

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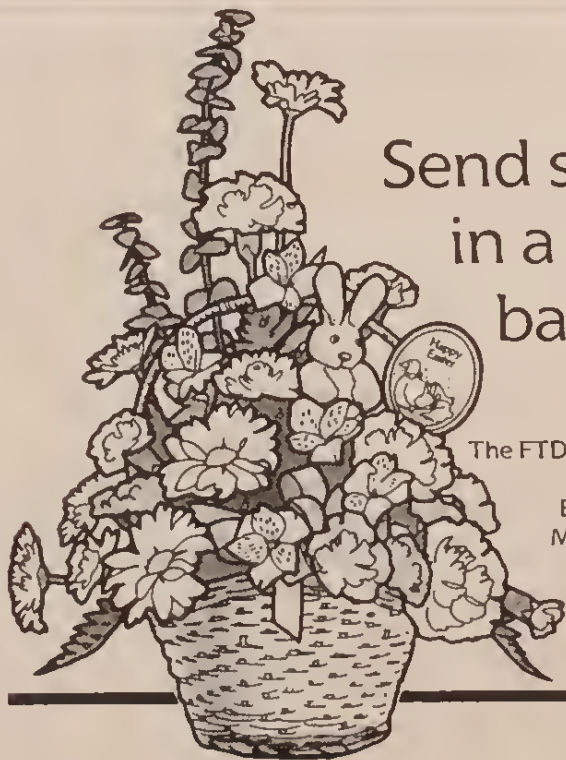
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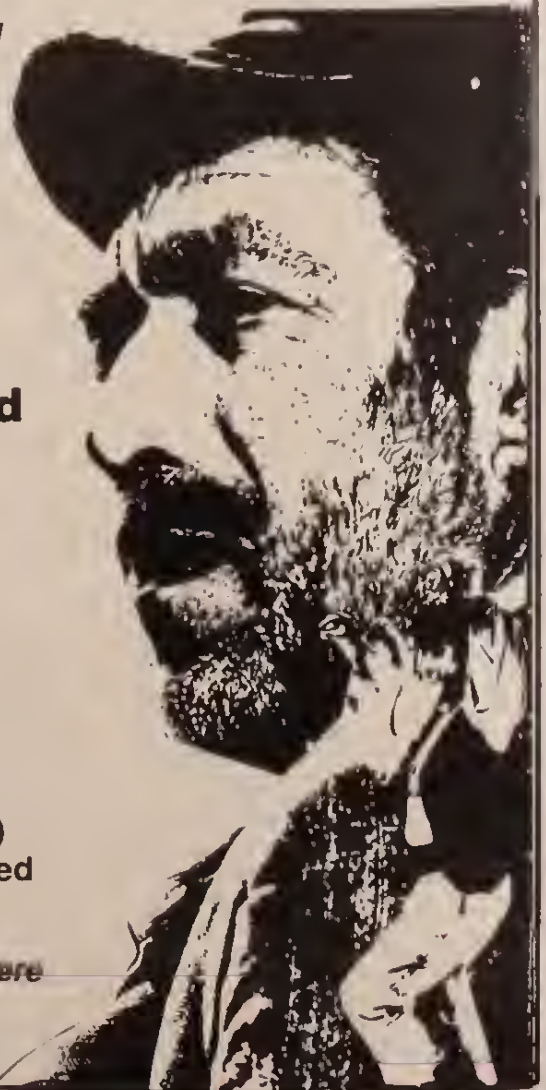
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The problems of dealing with and adequately caring for the elderly will be discussed during a seven-week information series entitled, "You and Your Aging Relatives." The series is offered Wednesday evenings March 12 to April 23 at St. Paul's Rectory, 221 Valley St., by Catholic Social Service. Space is limited, so call 864-7400 right away for a reservation and a pre-series interview.

Circus Puerilis

The Noe Valley Ministry becomes the Big Top on Sunday, March 9, for an amazing array of trapeze artists, dancing elephants, bears, tigers, rope walkers and much more. These are all created for the delight of kids of all ages by Pam Frit and Rutahaga of Circo Bezurko through the medium of puppetry. The performance, which starts at 2:30 p.m., is the latest in the KiddingAround series, and you can find out more from the Ministry (located at 1021 Sanchez St.) by calling 282-2317.

March Music

March comes in like a lion and goes out with a laugh in presentations at the Noe Valley Ministry. Norman Salant (see story on page 15) joins forces with fellow saxophonist Benjamin Bossi, of Romeo Void fame, in the Noe Valley Music series March 8.

Patrick Baff, Irish harper and storyteller, will usher in the St. Patrick's Day weekend on March 15. And topical comic Will Durst performs March 22 with Femprov, an all-female troupe that includes his wife Debi. All of the Saturday concerts start at 8:15 p.m., and you can call 282-2317 for more info.

The Noe Valley Music store (not the series) is producing two of its own musical evenings in the middle of the month. On Sunday, March 16, at 7:30

SHORT TAKES



The storms of February laid waste to a palm tree near the corner of Dolores and Army streets. Under the spring sunshine, the street should have new fronds soon.

PHOTO BY SARAH SMITH

p.m., Diana Stork, Teed Rockwell and Karma Moffett will present three sessions of world folk music under the titles Geist, Jewel in the Lotus, and Himalayan Bells. Besides the bells, their instrumentation will include harp, flute, drums and Chapman Stick. Guitarist and Rounder recording artist Roy Bookbinder plays "Hillbilly Blues" on March 18 at 8 p.m., assisted by Noe Valley Music's own Dale Miller. Phone the store at 821-6644 for details.

The Noe Valley Ministry, site of all the above, is at 1021 Sanchez St. near 23rd.

Art Bar

Noebody's Inn becomes more than just a bar for an Art Fair, set for May 16-18. Jeff Behney, artist and bartender at Noebody's, notes that artists, poets and musicians are invited to get in touch with him to discuss their participation. The only criteria for "exhibitors" are that they be involved in "fine arts" and residing in Noe Valley. Call Behney at 285-0674 and arrange to meet him at Noebody's, 4075 24th St.

World of Women

Two events around the occasion of International Women's Day (March 8) will set women's issues in a global perspective. Jeanne Adleman, a feminist therapist who has practiced in Noe Valley, gives us word of the 11th National Conference of the Association for Women in Psychology, to be held March 6-9 at the Hyatt Regency Hotel in Oakland. Open to all "who support a feminist vision of women's mental health and psychology," the conference will include presentations on recent research and practice, as well as workshops on such diverse topics as unlearning racism, incest treatment, alcoholism and women's self-esteem. Conferees will relax on Friday and Saturday evenings with a cabaret and concert/dance featuring Maxine Howard's Women in the Blues Revue. Contact Adleman at 585-0666 for details and registration information.

A day-long forum on March 8 called "After Nairobi: Forward-looking Strategies" will bring home lessons from last year's Women's Non-governmental Conference, which was held in that African city. Morning activities at the Center for Education and Development, 1855 Folsom St., will include exhibits and videos from Nairobi and workshops on women and health, children, immigrant workers, and economic trends for working women.

The afternoon sessions, which will take place at the Women's Building, 3543 18th St., will center on issues of women and peace around the world and will culminate in a re-creation of the Nairobi Peace Tent. Music and dance from South Africa will grace the evening, along with an appearance by Thula Shangase from the African National Congress, Women's Section. For more information, call 431-7522 or 621-3870.

Helping Mental Health

The Community Advisory Boards for Mental Health Services serve the city by making sure that public opinions and needs are served, and you can help by volunteering for service on one of the boards. Monthly meetings, lasting from 4 to 6 hours, focus on such concerns as the availability of mental health facilities for the elderly, the homeless and refugees. You do not need experience, but must be at least 16 years of age and live in San Francisco. Please call Rawna Romero at 558-4671 for an application.

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The Joys and Trials Of Lesbian Parenthood

Continued from Page 1

They decided that Harrison, who is 37, would be artificially inseminated by one of Dale's five brothers, three of whom had volunteered to be a sperm donor. Dale, 41, had been advised not to have children for medical reasons.

"Right from the beginning, we were very conscious that we wanted to try to have the same gene pool because we thought the gene pools would make an interesting baby," explained Dale, who is now "Mommy" and biological aunt of 8-month-old Zachary, a bright-eyed baby with a sweet, serene nature.

The two women eventually settled on Dale's brother Christopher as the donor because he was the youngest and healthiest of the three. They also thought it might be a nice opportunity for him, because Christopher is also gay and would be less likely to have children.

The three of them had a legal document drawn up which specified that Christopher could make no legal claims on the child, except in the event of both mothers' deaths. It also stated that his sister and Harrison would make no demands on him for child support and that he would have complete visitation rights.

While the legality of this kind of document, which is only one variation of many, has yet to be tested in court, Dale and Harrison still felt it was an essential first step toward safeguarding their rights.

"It does get sticky. If he did have too big a role and there came a time—we don't think Chris would ever try to take Zach from us—but if he were living here and an everyday figure in Zach's life, there could come a time when he might say, 'Hey, it's my time to have him now,' and, as a lawyer, be able to do it," said Dale. In spite of these risks, both mothers would like the father to live in San Francisco or nearby.

Drawing up legal papers, however, turned out to be the least troublesome part of what became nearly a three-year process.

After close to a year of using both "live" and frozen sperm that was stored at the Oakland Feminist Women's Health Center Sperm Bank, Dale and Harrison began seeing a long line of doctors to grapple with a series of unexpected medical complications.

One problem, which may have inhibited conception for Harrison, was the presence of a uterine fibroid that later

grew during pregnancy from the size of a softball to a cantaloupe. Removal risked a hysterectomy, and this was a risk Harrison wasn't willing to take.

Adding insult to injury was the bedside manner of several doctors, Harrison said.

"I'd explain my situation, and when I got into the lesbian part, you'd see their shoulders go up to their ears," she said, shaking her head.

After undergoing an additional year of at-home inseminations—three times a month—and suffering through numerous tests and repeated criticism from her doctors ("You should be having a hysterectomy, not a pregnancy testing"), Harrison did finally become pregnant, but only after a Kaiser nurse advised her to lie down if she started to bleed.

Harrison stayed prone through most of her pregnancy, but when Kaiser called with the results of her amniocentesis test, she couldn't contain herself.

"No one was home," recalls Harrison, her face all lit up. "I was dancing around so much that Molly [the dog] was harking."

"She was almost having the baby," laughed Dale.

"I felt like I *had* had the baby," said Harrison, letting out a big sigh. "I'll never forget that night. I was in tears. Laughing. Crying. Everything."

Not everyone in Harrison's family shared her joy.

"When I'd made it through the first trimester, I called my mother to let her know I had a 50-50 chance of carrying the baby to term," Harrison remembered. "She said something like, 'Oh, that's too bad.'" Harrison thinks her mother simply considered her pregnancy "too much of an embarrassment" to face. She hasn't spoken to her daughter since.

Harrison's gardening clients, however, handled the news of her pregnancy with more largess. Their immediate response was, "Gee, I didn't know you were married." To which Harrison replied, "Well, I'm not."

"Within a month or two they all knew the situation and didn't have any problem with it," said Dale, mentioning that five clients later gave them a baby shower.

According to Cheri Pies, lesbian mothers-to-be should not be surprised if their friends and relatives display a wide range of reactions, like Harrison and Dale's did.

Pies says that when she speaks publicly, her audiences invariably ask two questions: Aren't these women going to raise gay children and isn't it going to be damaging for the children to grow up without a father?

"They assume that we have some control over the sexuality of our children and that families without fathers are somehow unhealthy families," Pies says.

Many lesbians, including Dale and Harrison, are quick to point out, however, that *they* are the products of heterosexual parents. If there is a correlation between the sexuality of parents and children, then how could they have turned out the way they did?

As for people's concern about lack of father figures, Pies' response is, "There are men in the world—two women don't raise their children in isolation."

Dale and Harrison make a conscious effort to involve male friends in Zachary's upbringing.

"I want good friends, sensitive men, uncle-type people in his life," Harrison said.

Pies says another frequently asked question is: what about lesbians' preferences for raising girls? First of all, she responds, it's a misconception that all lesbians prefer girl children. Secondly, there's nothing wrong with expressing a preference.

"A lot of straight women want girls and no one thinks anything of it," she says. "But if a lesbian says that, all of a sudden people start raising eyebrows."

She concedes, however, that historically there has been less acceptance in the lesbian community for boy children, something that she believes is gradually changing as more lesbians choose to parent.

Dale and Harrison's response to having



It's taken time and understanding, but baby Zach is now enjoying the attention of two mothers under the same roof. Kathleen Harrison (top) and Carolyn Dale are among the many lesbian couples who have opted for parenthood. PHOTO BY CHARLES KENNARO

a baby boy was unequivocal.

"I had wanted a girl to have the chances I never had, but in the thirtieth of a second that they told me I had a boy, I was just as happy," said Harrison, beaming with the pleasure of reminiscence. Dale's reaction was equally excited: "Oh, won't *this* be interesting!"

It didn't take them long to settle on a boy's name, Zachary, which means "gift from God."

Harrison and Dale acknowledge that their child may suffer some social ostracism from growing up in a lesbian household. "He may make up some of his own stories about who we are," says Dale, but "the best way for him to feel comfortable is if *we* feel comfortable."

The risks for children of lesbians in a homophobic society may be readily apparent, but there are also some benefits, claims Cheryl Jones, who leads lesbian parenting groups at the Lyon-Martin women's clinic in Eureka Valley.

"There aren't many lesbians who have kids by accident," Jones says, noting that careful premeditation leads to a better appreciation of the demands of parenting. And these are wanted children, says Jones, who is herself a mother of a 5-year-old girl. Certainly, the story of Dale and Harrison's repeated attempts to have a baby against great odds is convincing evidence that they desperately wanted children, she said.

Jones also thinks the children of lesbians and gay men will be "more tolerant" because they will have grown up as children of an oppressed minority and learned to accept differences.

By the same token, she adds, lesbian mothers will be less likely to assume that their child will grow up to be a certain way—straight or gay.

She and Harrison and Dale all agree: "That's a sense of freedom we never had." □

AIDS Research Group Studies Lesbian Insemination

In the past several years, hundreds of lesbians in the Bay Area have used artificial insemination as a means to have children.

Because more lesbians choose this route to have a baby than straight women, and because many have used gay donors, this group of women has been chosen to test the risks of contracting AIDS through artificial insemination.

The study, called the Lesbian Insemination Project, is being conducted by the Association for Women's AIDS Research & Education (A.W.A.R.E.) and U.C. Berkeley, says project coordinator Cheri Pies.

According to Pies, since November of 1985, only 50 lesbians have volunteered to be tested for the presence of AIDS antibodies, although at least 400 are needed to attach scientific validity to the study's results.

An encouraging sign, however, is that all 50 who have come forward have tested negative, despite the fact that one-half of their donors were gay men.

In order to participate, call the Lesbian Insemination Project at 476-4091. □

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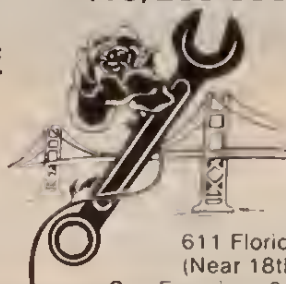


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Only their hairdressers and clothiers know how much care went into these young women's appearance of carelessness on 24th Street last month. Photo by Joel Abramson.



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Fiction Contest

Sunset at Lizard Rock

By John Cleary

I sometimes like to tell lies.

♦ ♦ ♦ ♦

The sun bleeds into the hard blue background. They say that Christ died for our sins, but the sun bleeds into the hard blue background. I am a lizard on a river smoothed rock: my rear legs bent; my forelegs extended to their full reach; my neck stretched out; my head high above the rock. The river rushes white nearby. It drowns all other sound. I am a lizard basking in the bleeding sun.

♦ ♦ ♦ ♦

Two young women run along an overgrown path in the thickest part of the woods. There is no sun. There is no sound except for a rushing white noise in the background. The women run, cutting through the thick still air until they can run no more.

"Oh Christ," says one of the women, "I hope those jerks didn't see us." Her breast heaves as she struggles to breathe. The other woman giggles.

"Don't worry about them, Lissa," the other woman says while she pulls long red hair away from her face and ties it into a tail, "those men were all too busy peeing to notice us. Funny thing about guys, they seem to have some kind of ritual thing about peeing. Do you remember when we hiked up half moon rock with those fraternity boys? Do you remember how they insisted on all going together to pee off the summit?"

"Yes, I remember. It sounded like fun. I mean the peeing part, not the part of all doing it together. I can just imagine their golden arches cascading two thousand feet to the ground."

"Don't be disgusting, Lissa."

♦ ♦ ♦ ♦

I am not I. I am the Prince, the machinating Machiavelli of love. My emotions dance before me choreographed to perfection. My dancers are bewitching—strutting, stretching,

pirouetting in magical chorus lines: they bedazzle all watchers; they beguile all potential lovers. My major weapons are love, which I use to conquer before I am conquered, and my cool charm which I deploy exactly in my advances. Basking in the bleeding sun I am not I.

♦ ♦ ♦ ♦

Five pairs of heavy boots tread the overgrown path in the thickest part of the woods. Dust billows and hangs in stale air. There is no sun. The man who belongs to the first pair of boots bends down to the path and picks up an elastic hair tie.

"Yes sir, boys, this is the way them girls have come," says the man. His lips curl back in a smile. "Yes sir, we won't have to worry about them now."

"Shouldn't we go and get them," says another man.

"Nope, no need to," says the first man. "This path leads right down to the river." The man's head turns, his nose sniffs at the air. "Come on, boys, let's finish marking out this territory like the boss told us. There's no need to worry about them girls now." Five men tread off the path.

They circle a thick trunked tree, pull down the flies of their pants, and pee on the trunk of the tree.

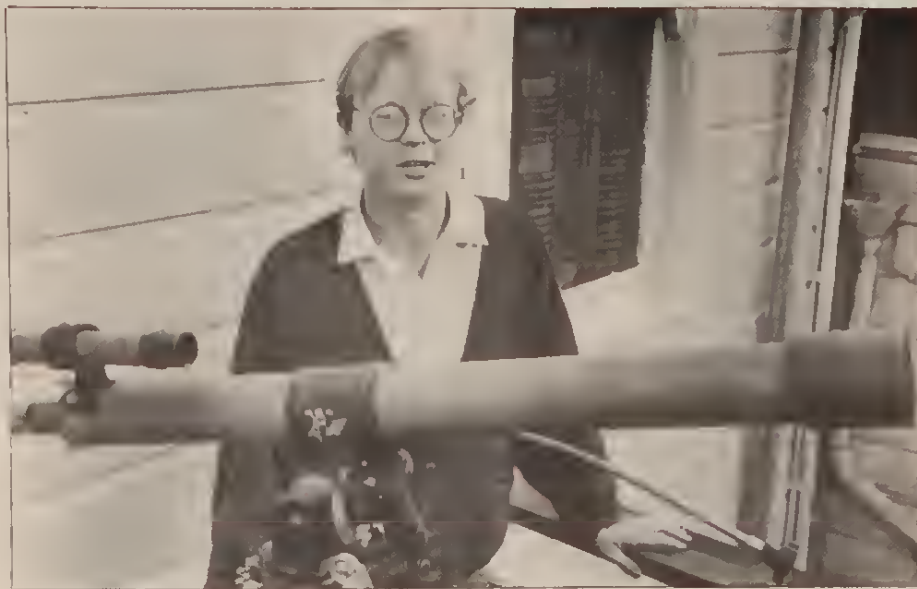
♦ ♦ ♦ ♦

The river sings of nothing. The river sings of destruction. The river cuts into the rock. I am not I. I am the river. I am the rock. I cut into myself.

♦ ♦ ♦ ♦

The woods are no longer at their thickest. A crushed lime rock path meanders toward the river and carries the women. Sunlight slights through the canopy. Red and dusty rays form an upside-down crown.

"Where are we, Mary? Do you even know? I've never been this far into the woods before and I don't like being here."



Twenty-fifth Street author John Cleary takes a surreal view of nature and ritual in his story "Sunset at Lizard Rock," third-prize winner in the Voice's 1985 Fiction Contest. PHOTO BY CHARLES KENNARD

"Don't worry, Lissa, I know exactly where we are. This path leads straight to the river. We'll come out of the woods by the rapids."

"What are we going to do there?"

"Why, I thought we'd watch the sunset. The rapids are my favorite place to watch the sunset from."

"But how are we going to get back? I'm not going back the way we came, not with them weirdos back there and all."

"Don't worry about them."

"If you're not worried about those jerks then how come you made me run away from them?"

"Don't worry, Lissa. I've been here a million times. I know what I'm doing."

♦ ♦ ♦ ♦

Love: a body on a marble slab, blue toes and a red tag. Jesus Christ died for our sins, but the sun is bleeding, and I, the Prince, will soon be dead.

♦ ♦ ♦ ♦

Five men stand before a hole—dark in the green lime rock. The sky above is crimson. The river rushes white behind five pairs of boots.

"Did you mark out the territory like I told you?" says a voice from the hole in the green lime rock.

"Sure did, boss," says one of the men.

"Good. Then that girl is ours," says the voice.

"Yes sir, boss, I reckon she is," the man says.

♦ ♦ ♦ ♦

The sky is bleeding. Soon it will be nothing. I cannot save her from the drowning sound. I am not I. I am the nothing. I am the drowning sound. Christ died for our sins and He stayed dead.

♦ ♦ ♦ ♦

The women come out of the woods by the rapids. A large flat lime rock looms before them. A circle of stones surrounds the rock. In the middle of the flat of the rock a small black lizard basks in the dying sun. It turns its head and looks at the women.

"Mary, what kind of creepy place is this? I mean Jesus Christ, it looks like someone bled all over that big rock."

"Never mind the rock, Lissa, you don't have to worry about the rock. I've been here a million times and I know exactly..."

"Jesus Christ, Mary, would you stop telling me not to worry."

"Don't speak like that, Lissa, He doesn't like it you know." Mary's lips curl back in a smile. Her body turns away from Lissa and walks toward the rock.

"Hey, boys," shouts Mary, "you can come and get her now."

♦ ♦ ♦ ♦

The sun is dead. Now there is only the drowning sound. I could not have saved her. I am I. I am not the Prince. I am not the river or the rock or the drowning sound. Jesus Christ died for our sins and he is still dead. I am I. I am a lizard on a bleeding rock.

♦ ♦ ♦ ♦

I sometimes like to tell lies.



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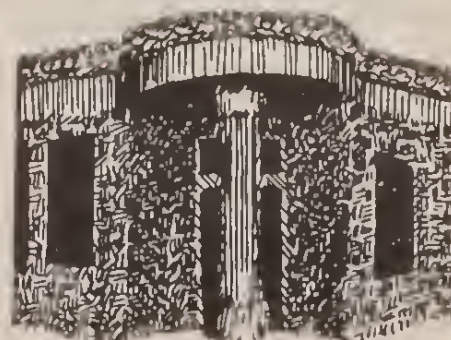
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Norman Salant, a Saxophonist Blowing Thru the Avant-Garde

By Susan Warshawer

"I'll be here a few weeks and a few months, but whether I'll be here in a few years, I don't know," says Norman Salant, who is traveling a wide circle in the music world these days. The self-taught saxophonist, who after living at 24th and Noe for four years moved to 14th and Guerrero last year, originally hails from New York. Benjamin Bossi, his current musical cohort, went back to New York in February to look into gigs for the saxophone-duo, and Salant named London and Berlin as high on his list of stopovers on a potential European tour.

Fortunately, their next act will be closer to home: Salant and Bossi will perform at the Noe Valley Ministry March 8. What you can expect to hear are the smooth, clear tones of tenor sax, without accompaniment. When Salant and Bossi give a concert, they stand alone on a bare stage.

"It's challenging," says Salant. "We're just two saxophones out there. It takes a lot of exploration to find all the different sounds you can get with just two instruments." According to Salant, working with two variables in music is like working with two variables in any system. "A computer system is binary. You make a language based on two elements to store all the information possible, but it all comes down to two elements in the end."

What it all comes down to for Norman Salant and Benjamin Bossi is a saxophone duet they perfected in only six months of work together. In Salant's albums, *Sax Talk* and *Saxophone Demonstrations* (which Aquarius Records was sold out of at the time of this writing), he plays saxophone but is accompanied by guitar, bass, percussion and drums. "I'd never done saxophone duets before. I'd never gotten along with someone so well musically before," he said.

Benjamin Bossi has established his own reputation as a member of Romeo Void, the recently disbanded New Wave combo. His sax was prominently featured in the band's hit single, "A Girl in Trouble," which made the nationwide music charts.

"It's inspiring playing with someone good," said Salant, who considers Bossi a great horn player. "It makes me play well." Their act is known as Norman Salant/Benjamin Bossi or Benjamin Bossi/Norman Salant, depending on the hooking.

What does the duo have in the works for their engagement at the Noe Valley Music series? "All original music, except for one Duke Ellington piece," says Salant. "It covers a wide terrain," including variations on '50s doo-wop, a traditional Irish jig, a country-folk hoe-down number, a song with a Spanish flavor, some experimental sound-texture music, and a lot of improvisation.

The improvisation is what makes their music distinctive. "We take music that's never been done before on a sax and transcribe it for sax. When you put it on horn, it changes." The structure of each piece remains fairly constant, however, with the musicians first doing solos, jamming for a while, then winding up with solos again.

Though heralded as "the Great Avant Garde Saxophonist" by one local nightclub proprietor, Salant resists labels. "We don't buy into any particular musical attitude. What we play isn't avant garde, jazz, New Wave, classical, it's all of that at once," he says. "I can put on any of those hats, but to wear the same one all the time would be boring. I guess I'm more of an individual personality in my music."

Certainly Salant has taken the individual path in his musical development. He first began playing saxophone when he was 14, without any formal instruction. He would imitate and play along with recordings by the Beatles, Bob Dylan and the Mothers of Invention. In terms of a personal style, however, Salant says he never strayed far from his own. "I've always been what I am now. It's not jazz, and it's not the blues. This bucks the trend."

The traditional distinction in horn music between jazz and rhythm and blues does not, in fact, help to classify his music. Listening to his albums, one finds the music danceable and energetic, ranging from New Wave tribal sounds to music that evokes the female vocals in traditional folk songs.



Norman Salant (right) has gained popularity as a performer in art galleries, dance studios and South of Market clubs, but he refuses to be stereotyped. He performs this month with fellow saxophonist Ben Bossi (left) at the Noe Valley Music series.

PHOTO BY STEPHANO MASSEI

Are there any musical favorites in Salant's life? "Joni Mitchell, I always liked to listen to her." Besides Mitchell, Salant spoke of a "cast of thousands" who had influenced him musically, including John Coltrane, Billie Holiday, David Bowie and the Talking Heads.

Where does a musician like Salant find a home for his music in San Francisco? The South of Market area, for one. Over the past six months, Salant and Bossi have been frequent performers at such trendy places as Oasis and Club Nine. "It's the main area of the city that has the kind of music I'm interested in doing, that's on the cutting edge of what's new and creative musically and artistically."

Lately, Salant's been spending most of his time song-writing. Composing, he will tell you, is a 24-hour-a-day profession. "I try to practice every day, and I try to compose all the time, though [a piece] only happens when it wants to be composed."

Several of his compositions have been used in performance pieces by dancer/choreographer Cecelia-Marie Bowman. "His work really inspires me. It's filled with images," says Bowman. "He has a beginning, middle and end—a story within each piece, which a lot of musicians don't have."

Salant now sees many paths toward making it in music, from writing commissioned works for local dance companies to composing pieces for television commercials. "I'm constantly planning projects that are music-and entertainment-related," he says. He will soon be working on a movie soundtrack, for a film he describes only as youth-oriented and set in the Bay Area.

In the meantime, he'll team up with Bossi at 8:15 p.m. next Saturday at the Noe Valley Ministry, on Sanchez near 23rd Street. Admission is \$5, and tickets may be bought in advance at Aquarius Records, 3961 24th St. □



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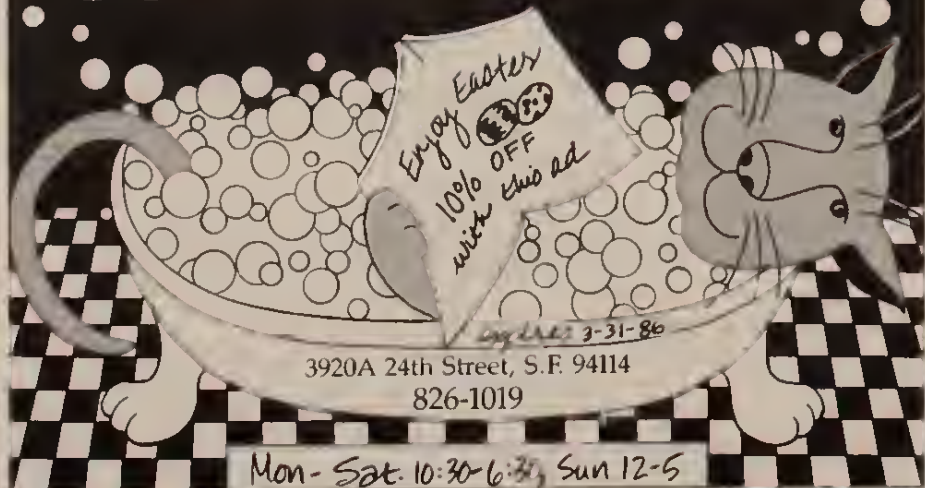
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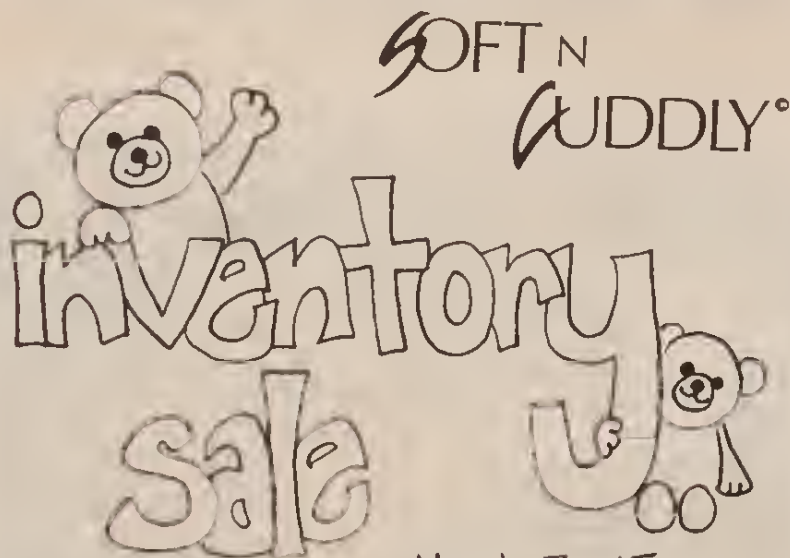
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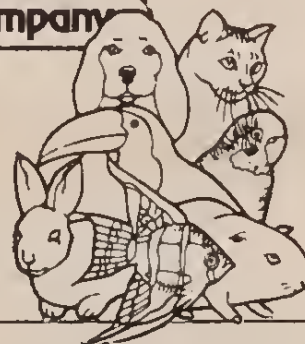
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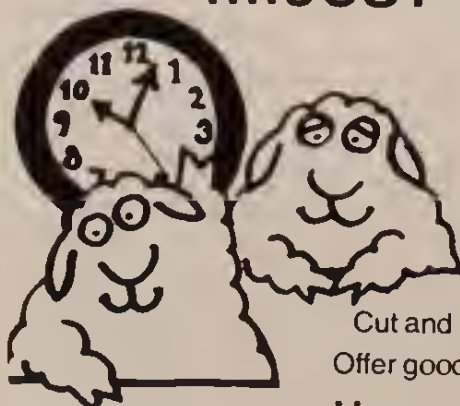
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Lou Ann Bauer's niry 23rd and Hoffman Street residence appears as a "Home of the Year" in this month's Metropolitan Home magazine. PHOTO BY CHARLES KENNARD

By Mazook

NOE YOUR NEIGHBORHOOD: Ninety years ago, the first automobile built in California rolled down the street. This "horseless carriage" was called Pioneer. The street was Downtown Noe Valley's own 24th Street, of course. The garage was and is located behind the doors at 4181 24th St. (across from St. Philip's driveway between Castro and Diamond). And the pioneering mechanical engineer who built this novel machine was John A. Meyer.

John and his wife, Jetta, "moved here from North Beach in 1894," recalls Boh Meyer, John's grandson. "He built the car from scratch, all by hand." After two years of tinkering, Bob says, John's creation was ready to roll, powered by a two-cylinder, water-cooled internal combustion engine. The 20-horsepower wonder had a sliding-gear transmission and could reach a top speed of 30 miles per hour.

For many years, the Pioneer was exhibited by the California State Automobile Association, but it is currently on display at the Oakland Museum (12th and Oak).

John ran an auto repair business in the 24th Street garage until 1941, when his son Albert (Bob's dad) decided to expand his Meyer Lithograph Company into the space. Bob took over his dad's printing business, which was established in 1931 at 1875 24th St., "in the '50s," and it still flourishes as one of Noe Valley's oldest enterprises. "We don't have any signs in front," says Bob, "because this is a trade lithograph business. Our customers are other lithographers."

☎ ☎ ☎

OLDER THAN PIONEER is Noe Vatteon Robert Coulter, who celebrates his 100th birthday March 7, 1986. A big party is planned at the Noe Valley Senior Center (1021 Sanchez) at high noon this Friday.

Irene Kane



Photography

821-7369

and now for the RUMORS behind the news

Bob, a former boxer, remains very active, walking up to three miles a day. He'll probably be dancing up a storm at the party with his girlfriend Mary.

Congratulations are also in order for long-time Noe Valley resident Jan Dempsey. A San Francisco Sheriff's lieutenant, Jan just received (for the second consecutive year) a certificate of honor for outstanding work in training peace officers throughout the state of California.

Local yodeler Bohhy McFerrin picked up a couple of trophies (we're impressed, Bobby) and performed along with an amazing cast of jazz all-stars at the Grammys ceremonies televised Feb. 25. Friends at home joined the ecstatic L.A. audience in a standing ovation for the musical extravaganza. ("Hey, that's Bobby, the one in the tennis shoes! And he's actually singing words!") The word is Bobby's next solo album will be on the Manhattan Records label.

Another local award-winner is Lou Ann Bauer, a senior designer with

shop's walls because, Bill warns, "The new owners may not keep it a grocery store." Hope the Louches' place in Guerneville is on high ground.

The New Church Market (Church and 29th) is now history, too. Chuck Shihedeh sold his stock, sold the building, and split. According to leasing agent Ted Urban, there have been no takers as yet for the 2,500 sq. ft. space with like-size basement rentable at \$2,750 per month. Old-timers will remember when that spot was a Safeway store.

Dae Kim has opened a new fully-stocked grocery at the corner of 23rd and Sanchez, to the delight of those neighbors who remember the bare-shelf days of Edison Market. Says Dae, "Come in for next week's special, a 32-ounce Best Foods mayonnaise for \$1.99."

Taking the spot that once was Ronnie's Market on Sanchez at Army is the Yerba Buena Deli/Cafe, the creation of Bill and Linda Haskell. Bill promises to dish up a nouveau Noe cuisine: "It'll be a New York Jewish/San Francisco/Italian mix,



The first carriage made horseless in California was test-driven on 24th Street in 1896.

Macy's department store. Her home, the one with the leaping bunny motifs at 23rd and Hoffman, was judged a "Home of the Year" in the restoration category by Metropolitan Home magazine. The mag's March issue, on the newstands now, has a four-page photo spread of Lou Ann's 1897 Victorian.

Also, to correct the typo in last month's column, Fred Methner was awarded Mazook's NOE VALLEON MEDALLION for outstanding citizenry in 1985. He is on his way toward winning the award again in '86. Calendar entries for Feb. 5-12, a typical Methner work week: Wednesday, conduct East & West of Castro Club meeting, featuring a talk by Capt. Michael Lennon and four officers of the Mission Police Station; Thursday, attend Anti-Graffiti Advisory Committee meeting at City Hall; Friday, paint out graffiti scrawled on Alvarado School and 18th and Church Muni shelter; Saturday, join S.F. Sheriff's SWAP team in cleaning Noe Courts; Sunday, erase new graffiti at Alvarado School; Monday, join Harold Beck in ridding Church Street poles from 24th to 30th Streets of stapled flyers; Tuesday, start scheduling for next week.

☎ ☎ ☎

MARKET QUOTES: "After 30 years here, we're selling out and moving to Guerneville," say Bernadine and Bill Louch, better known as the mom and pop of Bill's Corner Grocery, at Sanchez and Duncan.

"This used to be my dad's until we took it over in '56," says Bill. "And before that, Louis Ronco ran it until January of 1951—see, there's his last calendar above the front door." This may be your last chance to see not only Ronco's 1951 calendar but some marvelous beer posters and other '50s artifacts on the

featuring the freshest ingredients of our region, and entrees to go." I liked the cole slaw.

Another pizza parlor is opening near the end of the J-Church line. This one's owned by Lauro Neri, who used to throw the dough at Noe Valley Pizza ('77 to '81) and Haystack ('82 to '84). The restaurant, to open soon, will be called Di-Neri's Pizza.

In a non-food item, Director Katharine Harer reports that her non-profit "literary center," Small Press Traffic, will be moving down the hill to the corner of 24th and Guerrero this month. After 11 years in cramped quarters on 24th near Vicksburg, the bookstore will set up its shelves in a "much brighter and more spacious" storefront at 3599 24th St. Harer emphasizes that the move is merely for expansion and not because of a rent raise. "We'd like to thank Bill Dreyer [the owner of the building at 3841 24th] for giving us really reasonable rent and total consideration" over the years. "He's a dream landlord."

☎ ☎ ☎

ADD TO YOUR LIST of local newsletters a freebie published by Moysha Barnett called *Magic Mountain*. You've seen Moysha a thousand times, walking his two dogs, Stuffy (a Tibetan Lhash Apso recognizable by his plastic collar) and Lady (a collie/shepherd), up and down 24th Street. The first issue's front and only page focused on the threatened loss of some open space and a hill at Castro and Duncan to a housing project. (The postscript to this story is that the local residents' final appeal has been denied and the bulldozers should be leveling "magic mountain" as you read this column.)



Bob Coulter and girlfriend Mary stand in front of the Noe Valley Ministry, site of Bob's 100th birthday party this month.

PHOTO BY CHARLES KENNARD

Vol. 1, No. 1 of another newspaper, *Latchkey Notes*, has just been published by K. E. Hones, an 18th Street author and educator. "Latchkey" refers to the growing number of urban kids who are on their own after school and pretty much take care of themselves until their parents arrive home from work. According to Hones, *Latchkey Notes*, an eight-page illustrated tabloid, is "the only newsletter in the country that serves this school-age population with the information that addresses the concerns, worries, and fears of being home alone." Bring back our after-school and recreation center activities soon! Write your supervisor. This is an election year, you know.

☎ ☎ ☎

LOOKING FORWARD: A new wave of tree planting will take place in Noe Valley this spring with the help of Friends of the Urban Forest, say members of Friends of Noe Valley... Six motorcycle parking meters may soon replace a car parking slot on the east side of Noe at 24th... Look for Russ "the Moose" Syracuse to show up for breakfast at Herb's Fine Foods (he's back on the air at KFRC)... Look for more than 200 Immaculate Conception Academy students and alumnae at about 9:30 Saturday morning, March 15, walking from ICA to Lake Merced and back (24 kilometers) in a fundraiser walkathon. The proceeds will support a new \$3 million annex that will officially open May 12. It will be christened Herbst Hall after its founders, the Herbst brothers, who gave the school's building fund its first half-million. "Our building fund is only \$224,000 short of \$3 million," says ICA Principal Sister John Martin. "Not bad for a small school with only 354 girls." That's all, you all. □

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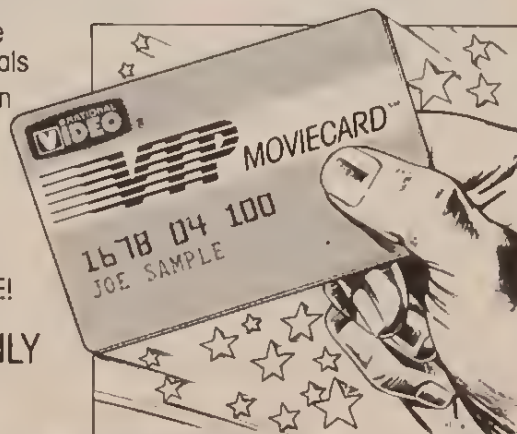
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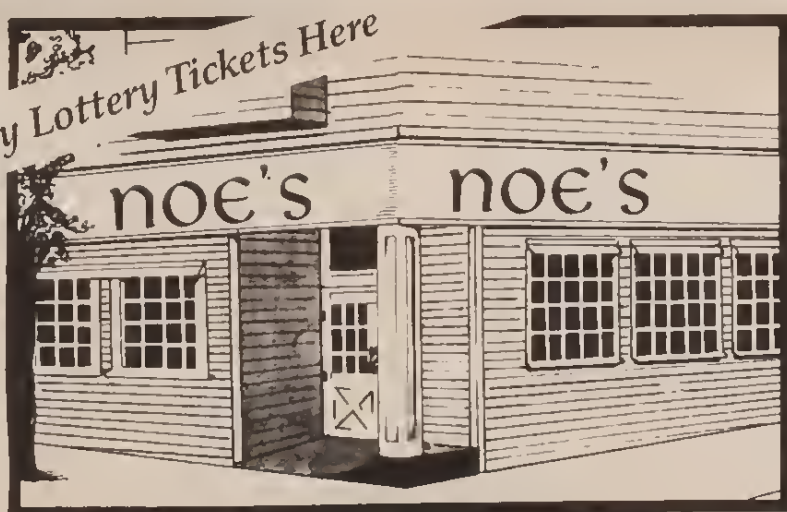
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MORE MOUTHS • to feed •

If you look hard at the photo of new father Marc Snyder, you may remember his appearance as an emergency room physician in a December 1984 *Voice* story about nearby St. Luke's Hospital. What you may not know is that mother Mariluisa Betta works for a company that staffs such emergency rooms; that's how the couple met. They relocated temporarily for the delivery of their first child, Benjamin Louis Snyder, on Dec. 14, 1985, and by the time we interviewed them, they had enjoyed their first uninterrupted night of sleep in two months.

Mariluisa would rather not have had a child so close to Chanukah, Christmas, and her own birthday, but she says Benjamin got through his first holiday season in style. "His [paternal] grandparents from the East Coast came out, and we all went to my parents' house, who live here in San Francisco." Benjamin has also started going out to dinner, has been to five movies, and wants to talk or, more precisely, is "making oooing and goooing and all those kinds of weird sounds babies make."

His father thinks that Benjamin probably wants to talk about food instead of film, since the baby generally sleeps through the latter and has already doubled his birth weight (7 pounds). Marc has "a little more experience in pediatrics than the average father or parent," but notes that this is a mixed blessing, since "sometimes I can be somewhat hypochondriacal" about his child. Fortunately, he employs the counsel of Noe Valley Pediatrics' Dr. Jim Schwanke, who is also Marc's colleague at St. Luke's.

The biggest revelation for Marc has been his own performance as a father. "As a 37-year-old, I thought I was too



Benjamin Louis Snyder

old to handle the lack of sleep and the demands a little kid can make on you," recalls Marc, but both wife and son agree that Daddy's doing just fine, thank you.



MORE MOUTHS TO FEED wants to show off your newest family member. If you have a new baby in residence, please send your announcement to the *Noe Valley Voice*, More Mouths, 1021 Sanchez St., S.F. 94114. Also include your phone number, so we can contact you to arrange for the family portrait.

Photos by Mariella Poli



Anna Elsohn Lisker

Lester Lisker and Nina Elsohn share a home on Vicksburg Street and work experience as hearing officers for the state of California, but, for Nina, parenting is a new adventure. Lester has "been through it all before" with four kids, the youngest 25 years old, from a previous alliance. Time has shown him that "everything you do isn't going to have a lasting impact."

Nina, a first-time mother at 37, is glad she waited to give birth to 7-pound, 4-ounce Anna Elsohn Lisker on Sept. 9, 1985. "I was really ready for her, and I don't regret the time and effort it takes," says Nina. In turn, her daughter "has created a fundamental personality change in me. I've never been responsible for anyone but myself. I had expected to resent it, and I don't. I think it's made me a much less selfish person."

Now launching into her seventh month, Anna has shown herself to be "happy, outgoing, contented, pretty and fulfilling," in Dad's words. He doesn't think she'll necessarily become a civil servant, but he does expect she'll get something from each of her parents. "She needs my wife's sense of reasoning," says Lester, "and she may very well have my intuition and humor. We'll see."



Patrick Joseph Pavich Weaver

Suzanne McDonnell and Dennis Weaver have been good friends since 1973, law partners since 1975, husband and wife since 1984, and parents since Nov. 10, 1985. That last date marks the advent of Patrick Joseph Pavich Weaver, who was born, as the announcement notes, "above the Golden Gate" at U.C. Hospital.

Patrick weighed in at 7 pounds, 9 ounces, and was soon accompanying his parents to their law office above 24th Street. The office, a residence converted to commercial use before the zoning restrictions, boasts an extra room (for Patrick's naps) and a kitchen (for his meals). "Our office is enough like a home," says Suzanne, "that we're able to do everything to meet his needs."

Daddy Dennis has had to forego some of his own needs, like his regular runs and swims, but he finds that Patrick's presence is actually good for his health at work. "At times when you might find it stressful," reports Dennis, "you can just go and spend time with Patrick, and it's quite relaxing."

Is lawyering a genetically acquired trait? "I hope not," says Suzanne, "although I do have to admit, sometimes when I'm feeding him, he certainly looks hard and long at those law books!"

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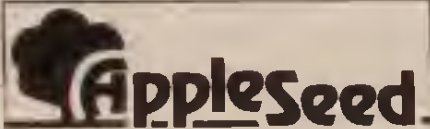
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• MORE Books to Read •

This month Debby Jeffery, the children's librarian at the Noe Valley Library, gives us the latest on kid-lit at the branch located at 451 Jersey St. near Castro. The library is open from 10 a.m. to noon and 1 to 6 p.m. on Tuesdays; 1 to 9 p.m. on Wednesdays; and 1 to 6 p.m., Thursday through Saturday (phone: 285-2788).

Fiction

The Loves of Harry Dancer—Lawrence Sanders

The Real Life of Alejandro Mayta—Mario Vargas Llosa

The Seventh Secret—Irving Wallace

Non-Fiction

Drawing on the Artist Within: A Guide to Innovation, Invention, Imagination and Creativity—Betty Edwards

The Flamingo's Smile: Reflections in Natural History—Stephen Gould

A Testament of Hope: The Essential Writings of Martin Luther King, Jr.—Martin Luther King

Parents' Shelf

Getting Ready to Read—Betty Goegehold

Ready, Set, Read: Best Books to Prepare Preschoolers—Ellen Mahoney and Leah Wilcox

Read-Aloud Handbook, Rev. Edition—Jim Trelease

Children's Fiction

The Finding—Nina Bawden (age 8 and older)

Clancy's Coat—Eve Bunting (ages 6–9)

Adventures of Ali Baba Bernstein—Johanna Hurwitz (ages 8–10)

Corduroy's Party—Lisa McCue (ages 1–3)

Children's Non-Fiction

Germs Make Me Sick—Melvin Berger (ages 4–8)

The Comet and You—Robin Krupp (ages 5–9)

Toad Is the Uncle of Heaven: A Vietnamese Folk Tale—Jeanne Lee (age 6 and older)

Combat Aircraft—Charles Messenger (age 10 and older)

My Mommy Makes Money—Joyce Mitchell (ages 4–8)

Cosmic Quest: Searching for Intelligent Life Among the Stars—Margaret Poynter and Michael Klein (age 10 and older)

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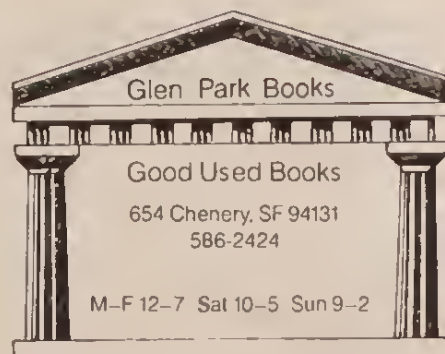
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ARTIST STUDIO plus bath & garage. For rent in Noe Valley non-smoking home. For work & storage only; no live in. \$350/mo., first, last & safety deposit of \$100. Dogs o.k. if compatible with dogs who live upstairs. Call Stuff, 641-0843.

PARENTS OF NOE VALLEY family looking for house-sitting in Noe-Eureka-Glen Park area for a 2-4 week period of time. May be in April, May, June or July. Call 824-7129.

TUTORING IN FRENCH by French native speaker and experienced UCB instructor. Any level. Translations also available. 641-9214.

HELP! RESPONSIBLE Bernal Heights family of 4 seeks house sitting/low rent refuge while their house undergoes major remodeling. March 15-July 1st (are we being too optimistic?) Call Lynn or Pat at 824-3889.

WANTED: OCCASIONAL evening babysitter for Noe Valley family's two children (7 and 9). Own transportation preferred. References. 824-6676.

SUBLET AVAILABLE in Bernal Heights. Beautiful, roomy one-bedroom apt. with panoramic view of city. Rent is \$550 beginning May through August. Call Rori at 824-1986.

DISH WASHING MACHINE. Kenmore "power miser." In good condition; I no longer want to live with machines. \$185. Marge. 826-7365.

NEW 10 WEEK JAZZ Dance for adults & children and S-T-R-E-T-C-H-A-E-R-O-B-I-C-S workshop begins March 24, 1986. All classes taught by Beth Abrams in a supportive, non-competitive atmosphere. Call 282-6177 for brochure and info. New children's jazz class for those aged 10-16 starts Wednesday, March 26 from 4-5:30 p.m.

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"ESOTERIC PSYCHOLOGY, Changing the Course of Your Life." "Success Without Stress, Going Beyond Talk." Life-healing classes \$3. 661-0148, 647-6121.

HELP FOR STUDENTS with the Algebra blues. Free initial consultation. 431-8138.

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TIRED OF THE SAME OLD STUFF you say to yourself over & over, never making the changes you want and need...? You can find your way out of the vicious mind circles! Free introductory session. Cecile Marie, M.S.W., 647-5374. Noe Valley.

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PARENTS OF AGATHA CHRISTIE (or Albert Einstein) or any child with **DYSLEXIA**—Do you need more information and validation? Perhaps talk with others parenting children with specific learning disabilities? Workshops, group and individual information-sharing sessions available. Sliding scale. Maida Solomon, M.S. 821-4332 (Noe Valley).

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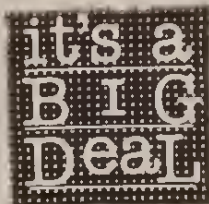
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CALENDAR

MARCH 1-27: MIXED MEDIA PAINTINGS by artist Mario Ahassi Joel. Art Options, 1600 Church St. 641-1892

MARCH 1-29: "THE EARTHQUAKE IN MEXICO" Tragedy and Hope," an exhibit of photographs, text and installation. Galeria De La Raza, 2851 24th St. 826-8009

MARCH 1-31: PHOTOGRAPHY EXHIBIT by portrait photographer Moysha Barnett, featuring familiar faces of people who live and work in Noe Valley and San Francisco. Courtyard Cafe, 3913 24th St. 282-0344

MARCH 4, 18, 25: PRESCHOOL STORY TIME for ages 3-5. Noe Valley Library, 451 Jersey St. 11 a.m. 285-2788

MARCH 1986

MARCH 5: PAULINE BART, author of *Stopping Rape: Successful Survival Strategies*, discusses violence against women from a feminist, sociological perspective. Old Wives' Tales, 1009 Valencia St. 7:30 p.m. 821-4675

MARCH 5: LESBIAN/GAY OPEN POETRY READING. Modern Times Bookstore, 968 Valencia St. 7:30 p.m. 282-9246

MARCH 5, 12, 19, 26: INFANT-TODDLER LAPSIT for ages infants to 3 years. Noe Valley Library, 451 Jersey St. 7 p.m. 285-2788

MARCH 6: ROXIE CINEMA 10th Anniversary Party. 16th Note, 3160 16th St. 9 p.m. 621-1617

MARCH 6-9: GARAGE SALE featuring special pieces of furniture, jewelry, framed pictures, collector's books, paintings, new shoes and more. Sponsored by the Helpers of the Mentally Retarded. 2626 Fulton St. 10 a.m.-5 p.m. 387-3031

MARCH 6-9: 11th National Conference of the Association for WOMEN IN PSYCHOLOGY. The theme will be "Women: Global Issues, Local Solutions," with approximately 100 presentations to choose from. AWP welcomes all participants who support a feminist vision of women's mental health and psychology. Hyatt Regency Hotel, Oakland. Jeanne Aldeman, 585-0666

MARCH 7: STEPHEN RIAVE melds melody and metaphor in his progressive folk-rock tunes. Meat Market Coffeehouse, 4123 24th St. 8 p.m. 285-5598

MARCH 8: Fifth annual PARENTS' CONFERENCE. "Invest in Your Child's Future," will provide information on alternative schools, consent decree programs, bilingual education, gifted programs, kindergarten through high school programs and more. Sponsored by the SF Unified School District. Everett Middle School, 450 Church St. 8:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m. 565-9835

MARCH 8: Avant garde saxophonist NORMAN SALANT teams up with BENJAMIN BOSSI, member of Romeo Void. Noe Valley Ministry, 1021 Sanchez St. 8:15 p.m. 282-2317

MARCH 8: INTERNATIONAL WOMEN'S OAY CELEBRATION presents a 1-day forum and cultural event entitled "Forward-looking Strategies: A Woman's Place is in the Struggle for Peace, Equality and Development." CED Building, 1855 Folsom St. 8:30-11:30 a.m., The Women's Building, 3543 18th St. 12:30-10 p.m. 431-7522

MARCH 9: KIDDINGAROUND series presents Circo Bezurko and "Pop Up Big Top," a 45-minute fun-filled, clowning-music-body puppet act for children of all ages. Noe Valley Ministry, 1021 Sanchez St. 2:30 p.m. 282-2317

MARCH 9 & 23: NOE VALLEY POETRY presents Howard Hart (March 9th) and James Paul and Tom Centoteila (March 23). Noe Valley Ministry, 1021 Sanchez St. 7 p.m. 564-3639

MARCH 10: FREE LECTURE sponsored by the UCSF Rape Prevention Education Program entitled, "What did Steven Spielberg leave out of the film 'The Color Purple'?" Toland Hall, 533 Parnassus Ave. Noon-1 p.m. 476-5222

MARCH 10: CROSSCULTURAL GAY POETRY AND MUSIC with Filipina poet Regina Gabrielle, Chicana poet Sabrina Hernandez and Anglo poet Tede Matthews—all reading with the musical act TBA. Modern Times Bookstore, 968 Valencia St. 7:30 p.m. 282-9246

MARCH 11: FILM PROGRAMS. For ages 3-5: "Chick, Chick, Chick," "Hen Hop," "Big Red Barn" and "Mole and the Lollipop" at 10 and 11 a.m. and 1 p.m., for ages 6 and older: "The Red Balloon," "The Wave," "Zlatch the Goat" at 3:30 p.m. Noe Valley Library, 451 Jersey St. 285-2788

MARCH 11: FICTION WRITERS OPEN READING welcomes both first-time and experienced writers of short stories, novels, etc. Modern Times Bookstore, 968 Valencia St. 8 p.m. (register to read to 7:30 p.m.) 282-9246

MARCH 12: Ed Brown, author of the *Tassajara Bread Book*, teaches the first in a series of COOKING CLASSES to benefit the San Francisco Nuclear Weapons Freeze. Turning Earth, 13 Columbus St. 621-0858

MARCH 12: Begins four-session WORKSHOP ON AGING entitled "Growing Older—Feeling Better" sponsored by Options for Women Over Forty and La Raza. Bay Area Jewish R.N., M.A. and health management consultant from Massachusetts. 33 Gough St. 6:30 p.m. 431-6405

MARCH 12-APRIL 23: Seven-week information series, "YOU AND YOUR AGING RELATIVES," offering vital support needed to cope with the impairment and illness that may accompany the aging process. St. Paul's Church Rectory, 221 Valley St. 7 p.m. 864-7400

MARCH 13: SUKAY, new and ancient music of the Andes, performs. Great American Music Hall, 859 O'Farrell St. 8 p.m. 648-5356

MARCH 13: HEARTSAVER CPR CLASS. Bahai Center, 170 Valencia St. 6 p.m. 665-8097

MARCH 14: WILSON PICO, international dance virtuoso from Quito, Ecuador will perform in a concert entitled "An Evening with La Raza Artists." Capp Street Center, 362 Capp Street. 8 p.m. 821-1155

MARCH 14: Celebrate INTERNATIONAL WOMEN'S DAY with entertainment by Faith Petric and a movie about Louise Tandy Murch. Bring finger food to share. Options for Women Over Forty (monthly meeting), 33 Gough St. 6:45-9 p.m. 431-6405

MARCH 15: The Community Music Center's SF CONCERT CHORALE presents "Music of the Americas: Music by North and South Americans." First Unitarian Church, Franklin and Geary Streets. 8 p.m. 647-6015

MARCH 15: ST. PATRICK'S DAY CONCERT with Patrick Ball, the Irish harpist/storyteller. Noe Valley Ministry, 1021 Sanchez St. 8:15 p.m. 282-2317



The Femprov troupe casts a woman's eye on comedy and joins political funnyman Will Durst at the Noe Valley Ministry March 22

MARCH 15: All-day workshop in CAREER OPTIONS FOR OLDER WOMEN designed for women making career changes, entering or re-entering the job market, starting their own businesses or looking for volunteer work. Unitarian Center, San Francisco, 431-6405

MARCH 15: In celebration of CENTRAL AMERICA WEEK, the Bay Area Central America Peace Campaign will hold a day of neighborhood outreach to educate the community about the effects of U.S. policy in El Salvador, Guatemala and Nicaragua. 9:30 a.m. Holy Redeemer Church, 19th and Diamond Streets

MARCH 16: PURIM Jewish/Christian celebration followed by a BRUNCH AND FOLK DANCE. Noe Valley Ministry, 1021 Sanchez St. 10 a.m. 282-2317

MARCH 16: JEWEL IN THE LOTUS, HIMALAYAN BELLS and other musical groups present world folk music, improvisational trance music, and more. Noe Valley Ministry, 1021 Sanchez St. 7:30 p.m. 821-6644

MARCH 16-23: Third annual WALK FOR PEACE IN CENTRAL AMERICA. Salvadoran and Guatemalan refugees will walk and caravan from Reno to San Francisco, in commemoration of the murder of human rights activist Salvadoran Archbishop Oscar Romero. Marchers will meet at 5th and Lincoln avenues for a walk through Golden Gate Park (11:30 a.m.) and proceed to a mass at St. Peter's, 24th and Alabama streets. 2 p.m.

MARCH 17: OPEN SCREEN experimental films showcase, and TOO MUCH FUN. St. Patrick's Bash. 16th Note, 3160 16th St. 10 p.m. 621-1617

MARCH 18: HILLBILLY BLUES with Rounder Recording artist Roy Bookbinder and special guest Dale Miller. Noe Valley Ministry, 1021 Sanchez St. 8 p.m. 821-6644

MARCH 19: HEARTSAVER CPR CLASS. Mt. Zion Hospital, 1600 Divisadero St. 6 p.m. 885-7277

MARCH 20: BARBARA CHRISTIAN, author of *Black Feminist Criticism* and professor at UC Berkeley, discusses the implications of her work. Old Wives' Tales, 1009 Valencia St. 7:30 p.m. 621-4675

MARCH 20-APRIL 27: The EYE GALLERY presents a Fifth Anniversary Member's Show, featuring work by current and past members of this photographers' collective. Eye Gallery, 758 Valencia St. Reception Friday, March 21, 7-10 p.m. 431-6911

MARCH 21 & 22: Three performances using varied combinations of music, dance and visual theater by artists ANNE LAWRENCE, EDWARD BARTHOLOMEW ANDREASTANLEY and MICHAEL JONES. Footwork, 3221 22nd St. 8:30 p.m. 824-5044

MARCH 21 & 22: Opening dates for MARAT/SADE (March 21), by Peter Weiss, co-directed by Michelle Truffaut and Michael Addison, and BAAL (March 22) by Bertolt Brecht, directed by Michael Addison. SF Repertory Theatre at the Victoria Theatre. 16th and Mission streets. 8 p.m. 864-3305

MARCH 22: WILL OURST, one of today's top political comedians, meets FEMPROV, one of the Bay Area's most hilarious comedy/improv groups. Noe Valley Ministry, 1021 Sanchez St. 8:15 p.m. 282-2317

MARCH 23: Workshop on how to plan a PASSOVER SEDER (ritual meal) that's just right for you, including information on Sephardic foods and customs, and on how to use your Seder to create deeper friendships and alliances. Modern Times Bookstore, 968 Valencia St. 7:30 p.m. 282-9246

MARCH 24: Starts new 10-week WORKSHOP IN JAZZ DANCE for adults and children, and S-I-R-E-I-C-H-A-E-R-O-B-I-C-S. All classes taught by Beth Abrams in a supportive, non-competitive atmosphere. 3435 Army St., Suite 208. 282-6177

MARCH 27: EASTER CRAFTS for ages 5 and older. Noe Valley Library, 451 Jersey St. 3:30 p.m. 285-2788



The Third Annual Salvadoran March for Peace, starting at Reno, will reach St. Peter's Church for a blessing of palms at 24th and Florida streets on March 23. PHOTO BY CELESTE GRECO

MARCH 28: THE RODD BROTHERS sing a mix of original songs and obscure pop classics in a tight blend of three-part harmony. Meat Market Coffeehouse, 4123 24th St. 8 p.m. 282-5598

MARCH 28-MAY 17: THE MENSTRUAL SHOW brings the subject of menses out of the ladies' room and onto the stage. From puberty to menopause, science to advertising, and sex to politics, *The Menstrual Show* is meant to entertain both menstruating and non-menstruating mammals. Studio Eremos, 401 Alabama St. 8:30 p.m. 474-3863

MARCH 29: WAR TAX RESISTANCE WORKSHOP for lesbians, gay men. Check this out if you're tired of paying for nuclear weapons, the Contras in Nicaragua, and the Death Squads in Central America etc. Casa El Salvador, 539 Valencia St. 10 a.m.-4 p.m. 261-9406

MARCH 29: LENNY ANOERSON performs outrageous songs, including "Ballad of Dan White" and the irreverent "Rellex-Process Blues." Lenny's second album, *Hot Off The Press*, has just been released. Modern Times Bookstore, 968 Valencia St. 8 p.m. 282-9246

MARCH 30: Begins EASTER ART SHOW with art made of non-toxic and/or recycled materials. Noe Valley Ministry, 1021 Sanchez St. 282-2317

MARCH 31: METAPHYSICAL AIDS HEALING SERVICE offering music, meditation, readings from written works on healing and motivational talks. Metropolitan Community Church, 150 Eureka St. 6:30 p.m. 431-5467

MARCH 31: CREATIVE VISUALIZATION with Carol Painter, Ph.D. Learn how to get more of what you want in life. Options for Women Over Forty, The Women's Building, 3543 18th St. 7-10 p.m. 431-6405

ZIPPY

ZIPPY'S BEEN WATCHING "REAL ESTATE REVIVAL" FOR THE LAST SIX HOURS & 21 MINUTES.

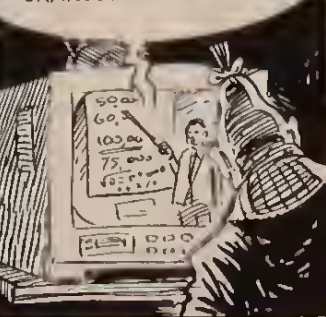
THAT'S AMAZING, BOBBY-SOL! & WHAT WILL YOU DO WITH THAT PRIME DESERT PARCEL YOU GOT FOR NOTHING DOWN?

UH... NOTHING, TONY.

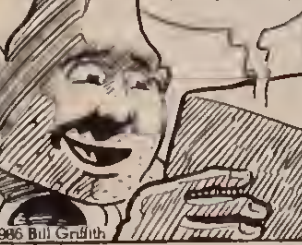


"TITLE SEARCH"

FRIENDS, IF YOU LET THE LORD BE YOUR REALTOR, YOU, TOO, CAN FIND SALVATION THROUGH QUICK TURN-OVER ON BUY-BACK SECONDS!! AND, YES, MY FRIENDS, JESUS CHARGES NO POINTS!!

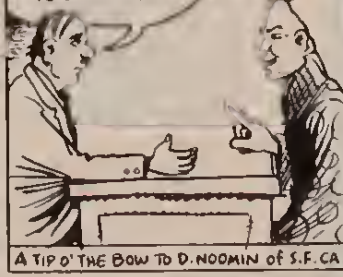


SO BELIEVE NOW, WHILE INTEREST RATES ARE LOW!! AND, YES, YOU MAY QUALIFY FOR A 30 YEAR, ADJUSTABLE RATE LOAN FROM THE BIG BANKER HIMSELF!!



BILL GRIFFITH

I'M SORRY SIR, BUT WE CANNOT ACCEPT A FRAMED DIORAMA OF THE LAST SUPPER AS A DOWN PAYMENT ON A LUXURY LAKESIDE TOWNHOUSE.



The Scoop on CALENDAR

Please send Calendar items before the 15th day of the month preceding month of issue to the Noe Valley Voice, 1021 Sanchez St., San Francisco, CA 94114. Items are published on a space-available basis, with Noe Valley neighborhood events receiving priority. Please note, our next issue will appear April 1, the deadline for calendar items is March 15.

